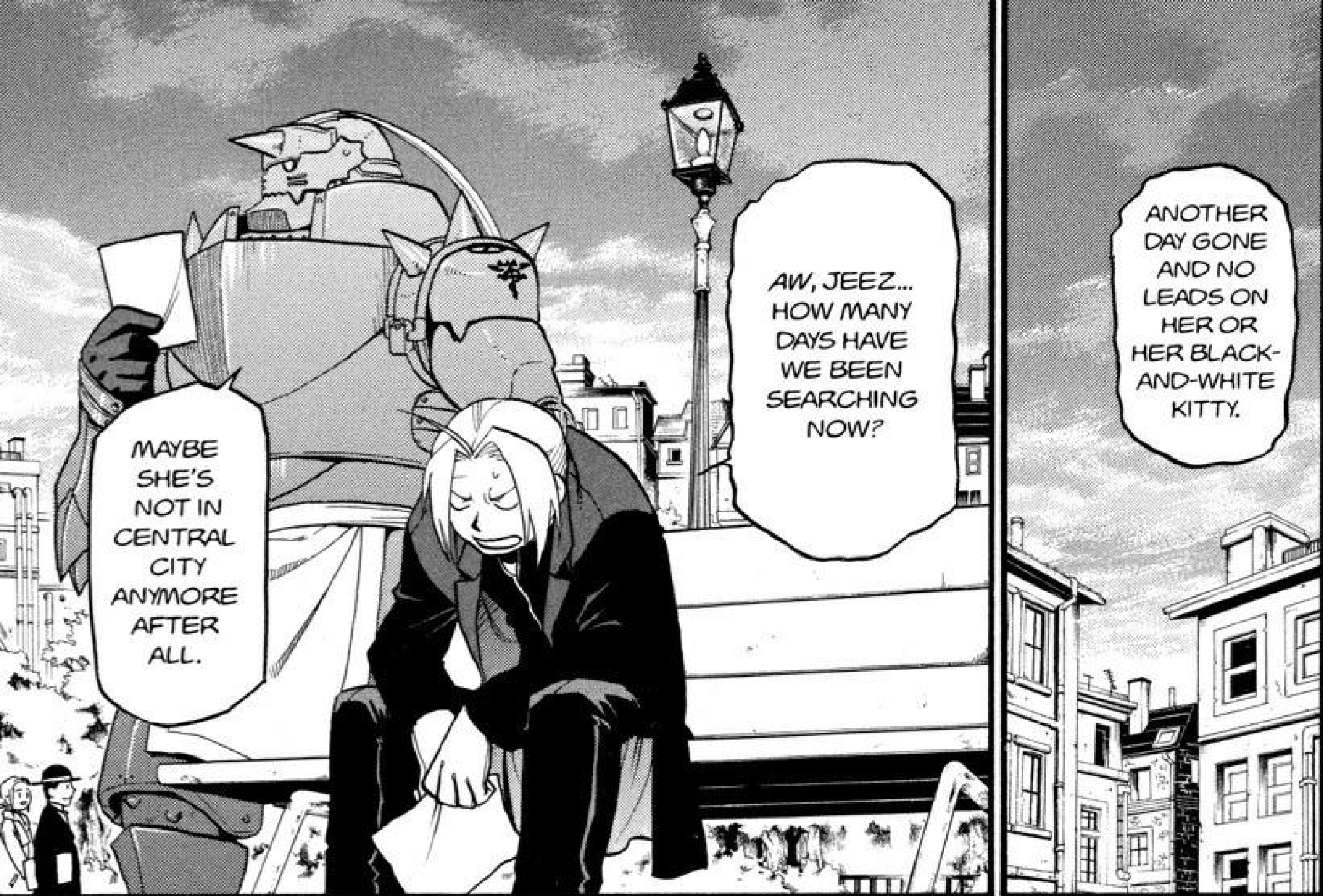
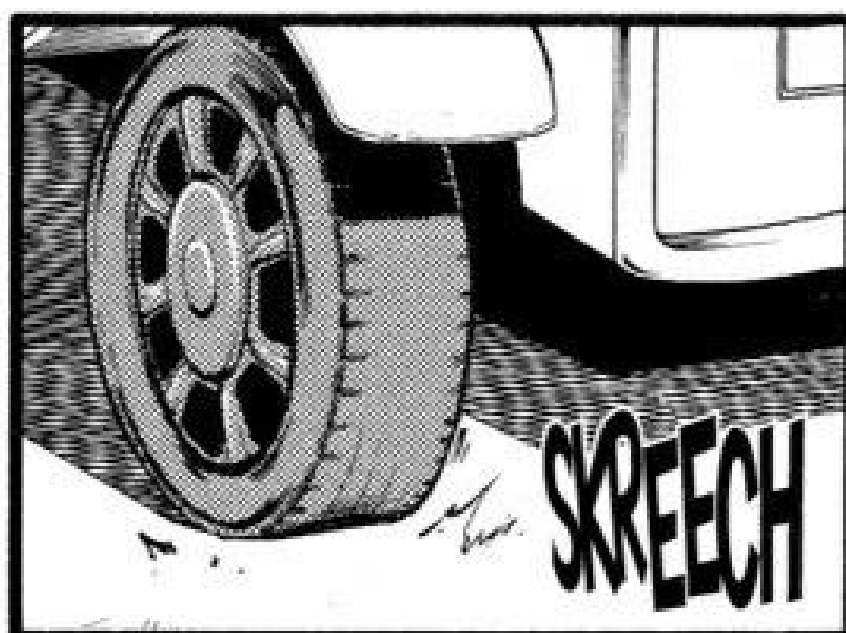




MAYBE SHE'S NOT IN CENTRAL CITY ANYMORE AFTER ALL.

AW, JEEZ... HOW MANY DAYS HAVE WE BEEN SEARCHING NOW?

ANOTHER DAY GONE AND NO LEADS ON HER OR HER BLACK-AND-WHITE KITTY.



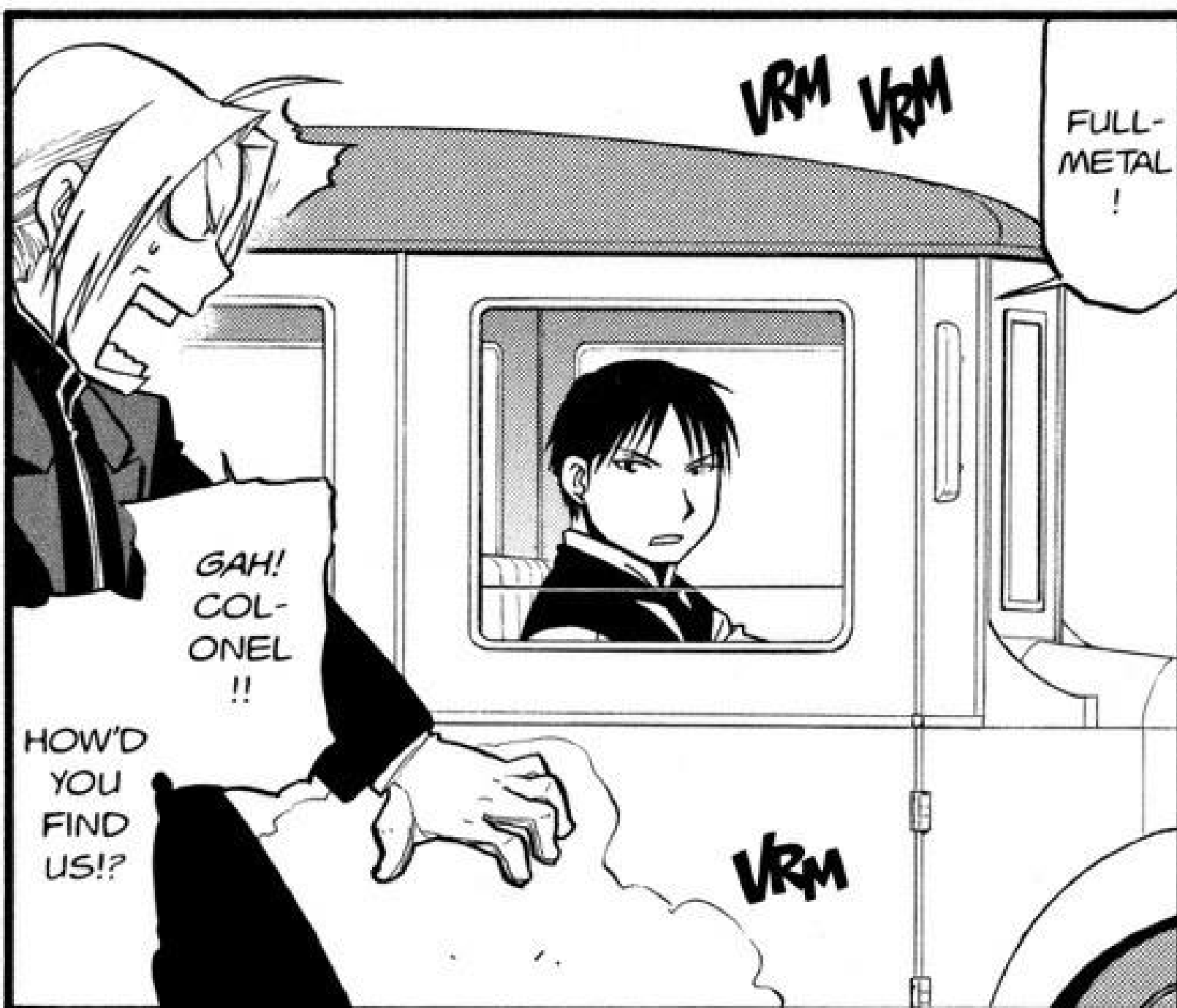
WE MIGHT AS WELL HEAD BACK TO OUR ROOM.

SIGH...



HOW?
ALPHONSE DOESN'T EXACTLY BLEND IN.

THAT'S TRUE...



GAH! COL-ONEL !!

HOW'D YOU FIND US!?

VRM VRM

FULL-METAL !

VRM



I HAVE SOME BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO THAT'S NEAR YOUR LODGINGS ANYWAY.

THEN GET IN.

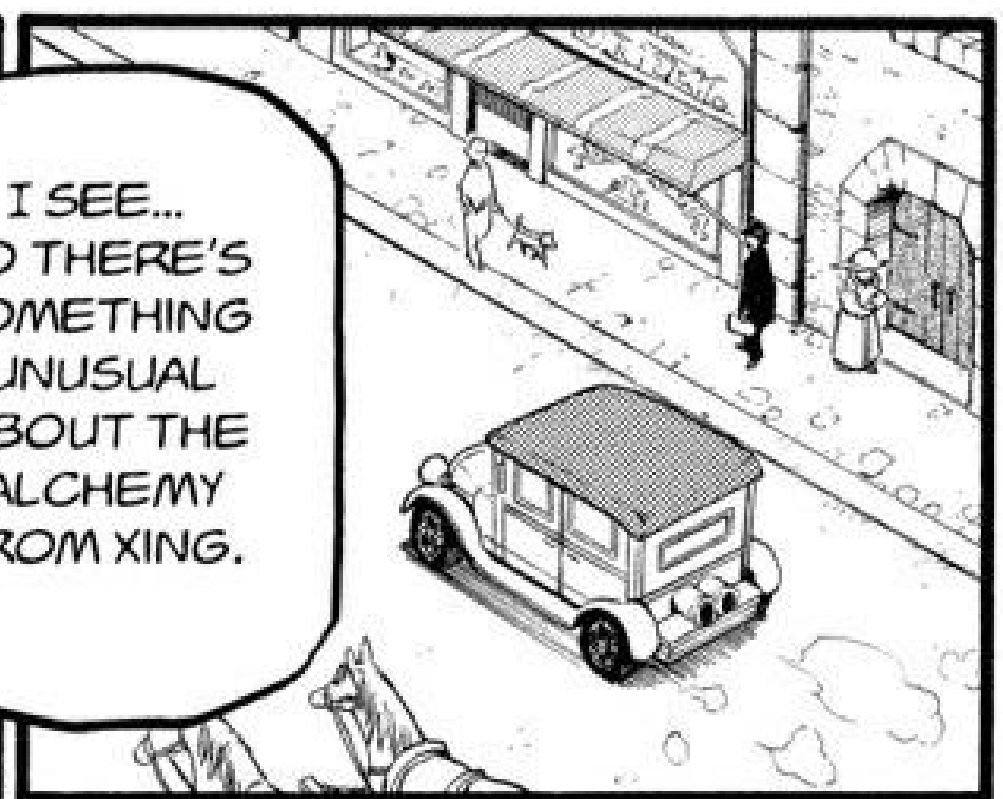
WE HAVEN'T HAD ANY LUCK, SO WE'RE ABOUT TO GO BACK TO OUR ROOM.

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?



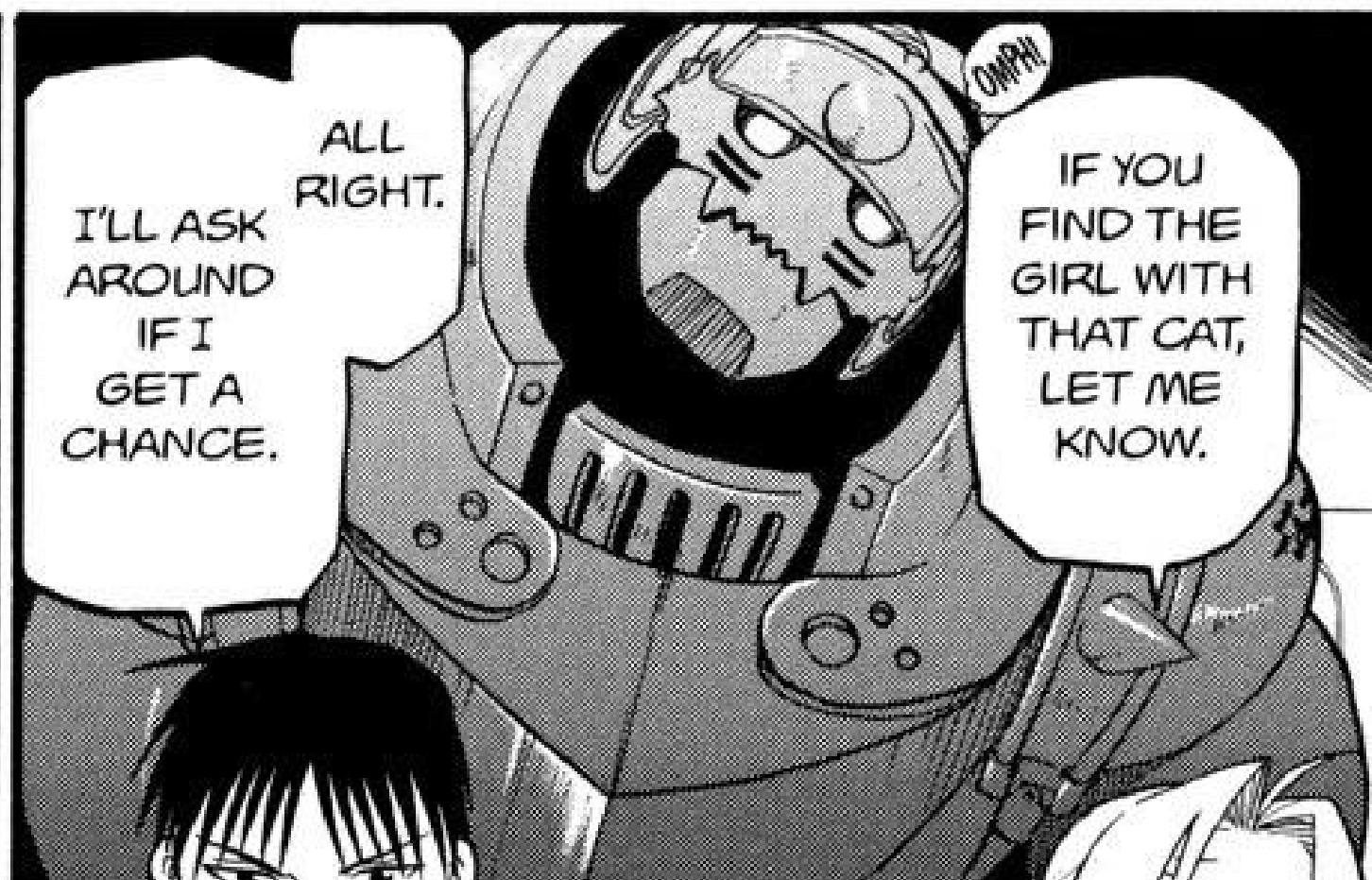
I SEE... SO THERE'S SOMETHING UNUSUAL ABOUT THE ALCHEMY FROM XING.



OH, THAT'S RIGHT! SPEAKING OF DEBTS...

TO TELL THE TRUTH, I DON'T WANT TO PUT MYSELF IN YOUR DEBT.

GRIMBLE GRIMBLE



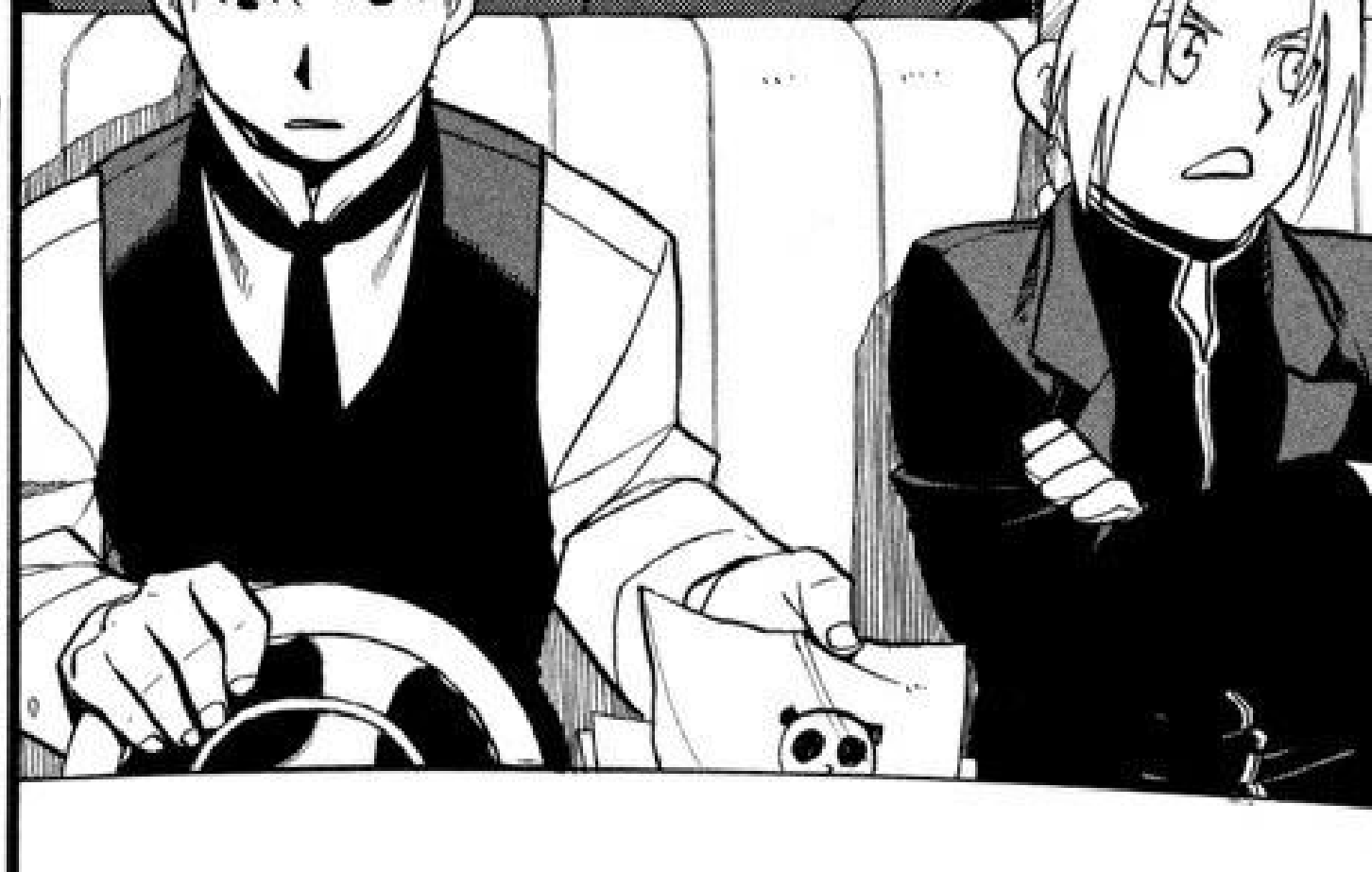
ALL RIGHT. I'LL ASK AROUND IF I GET A CHANCE.

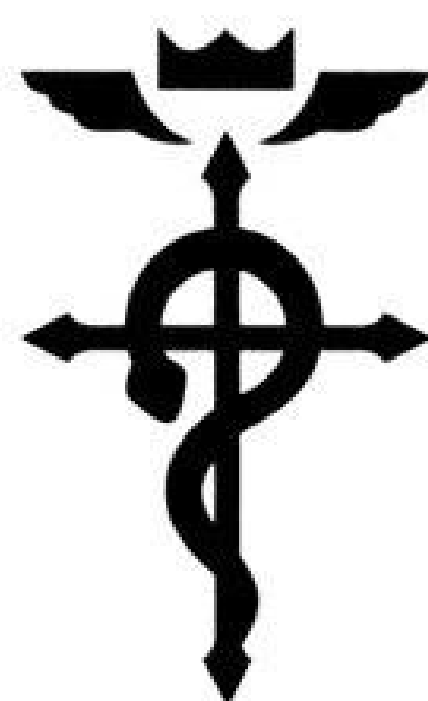
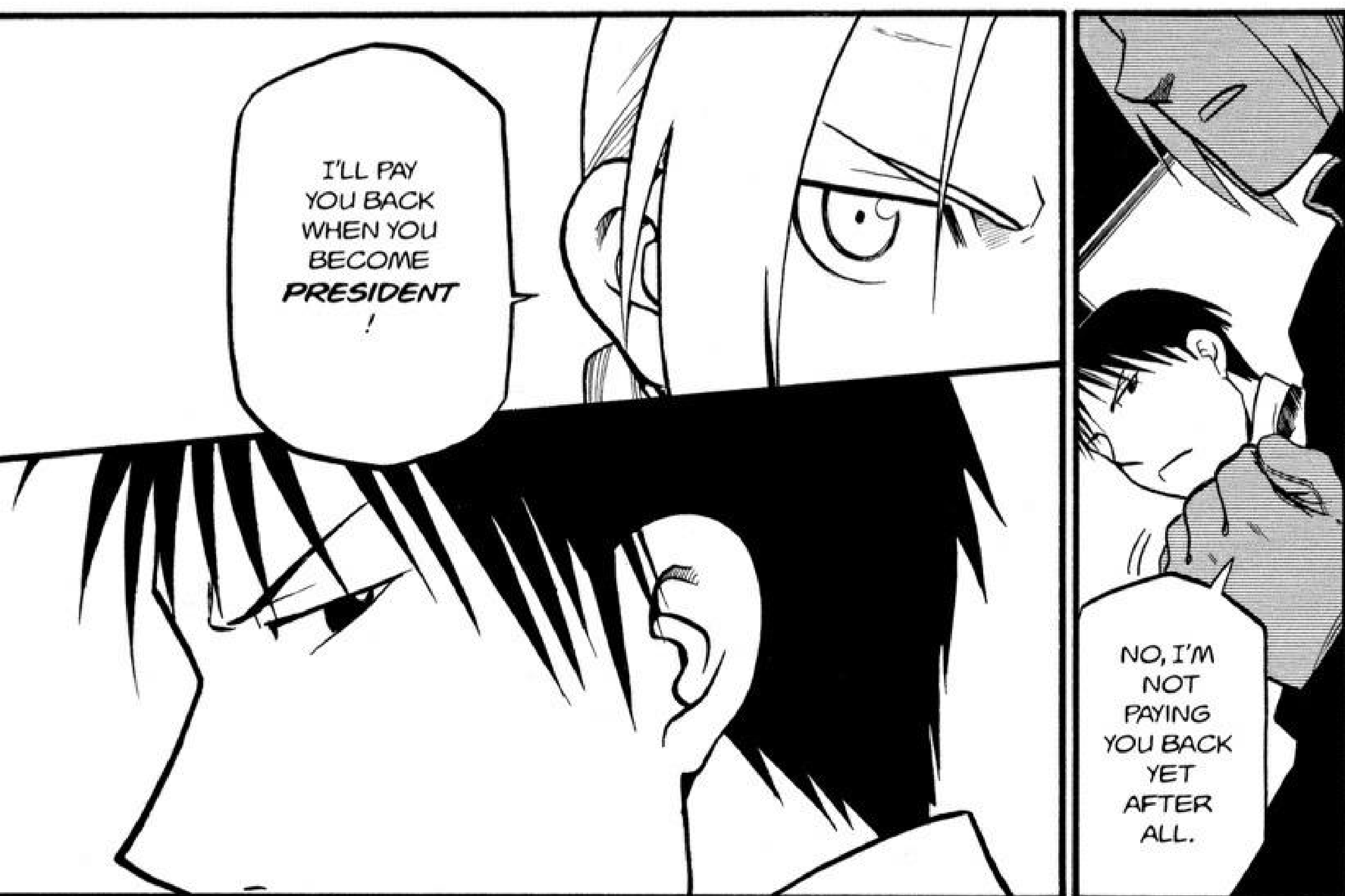
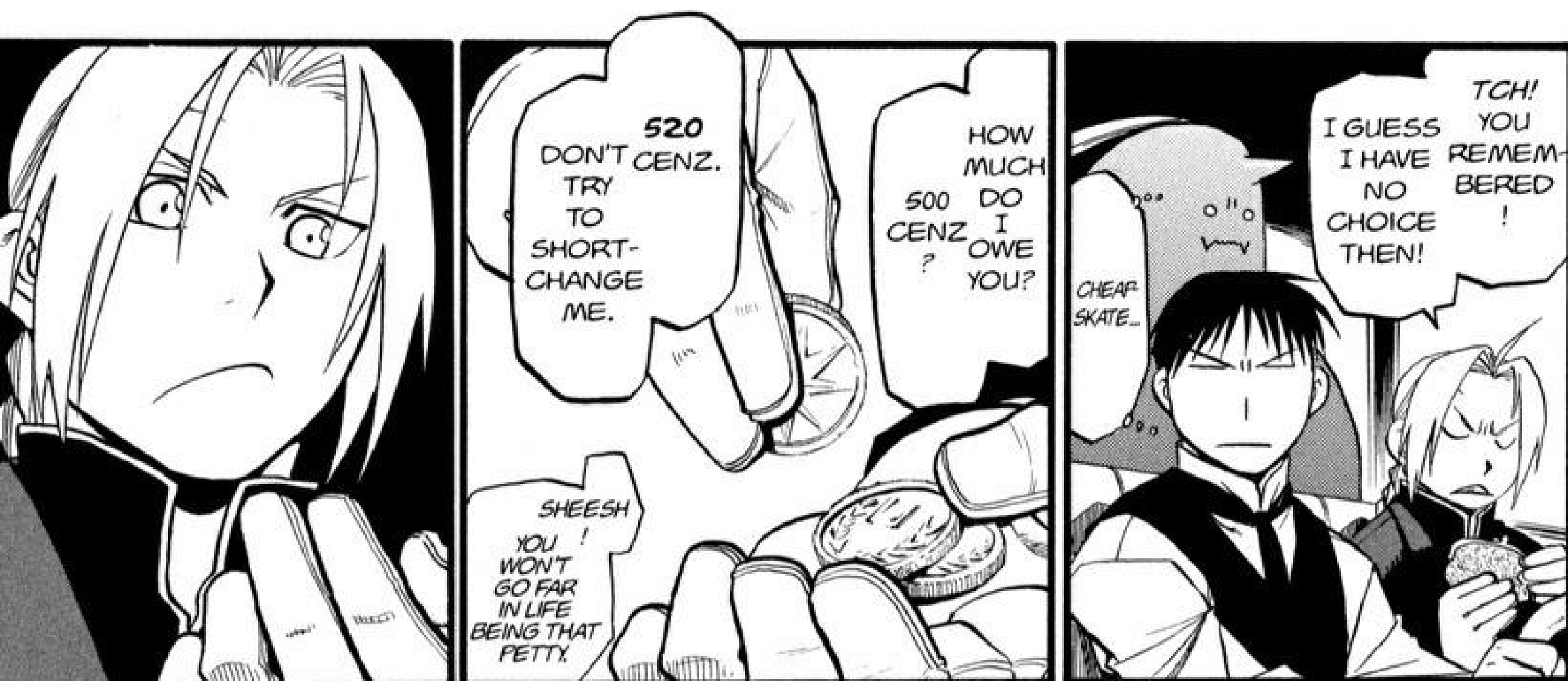
OMPH!
IF YOU FIND THE GIRL WITH THAT CAT, LET ME KNOW.



I LENT YOU SOME CHANGE WHEN WE WERE IN THE PRESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.

HAND OVER THE MONEY YOU OWE ME.





Chapter 63

The Promise Made for 520 Cenz



LT.
HAWK-
EYE.

WHO
TOLD
YOU
ABOUT
THAT?



...



SHE
TOLD ME
ABOUT
ISHBAL
TOO.



HUH
?

FULL-
METAL.



BUT ONE
DAY YOU
WILL
PAY ME
BACK.

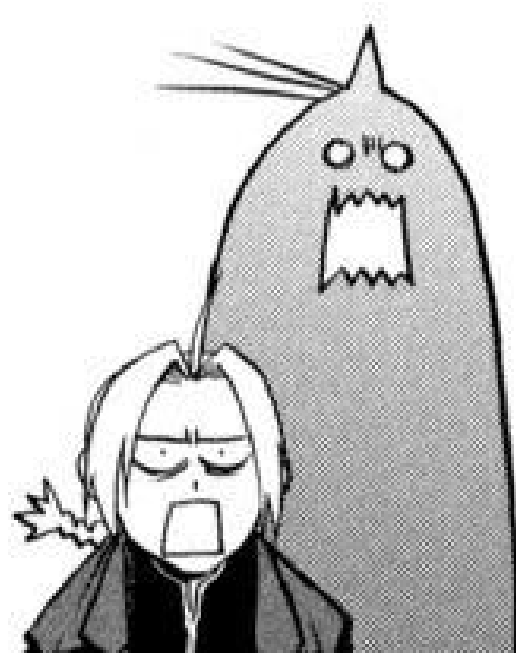
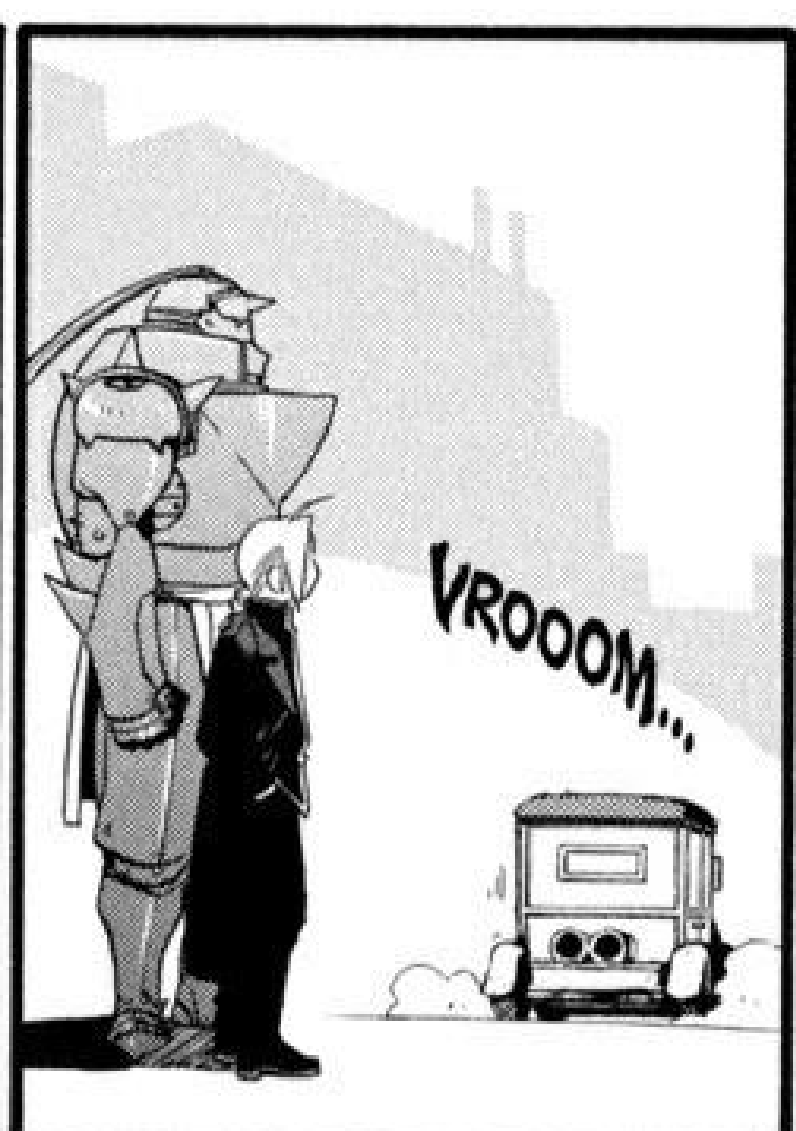
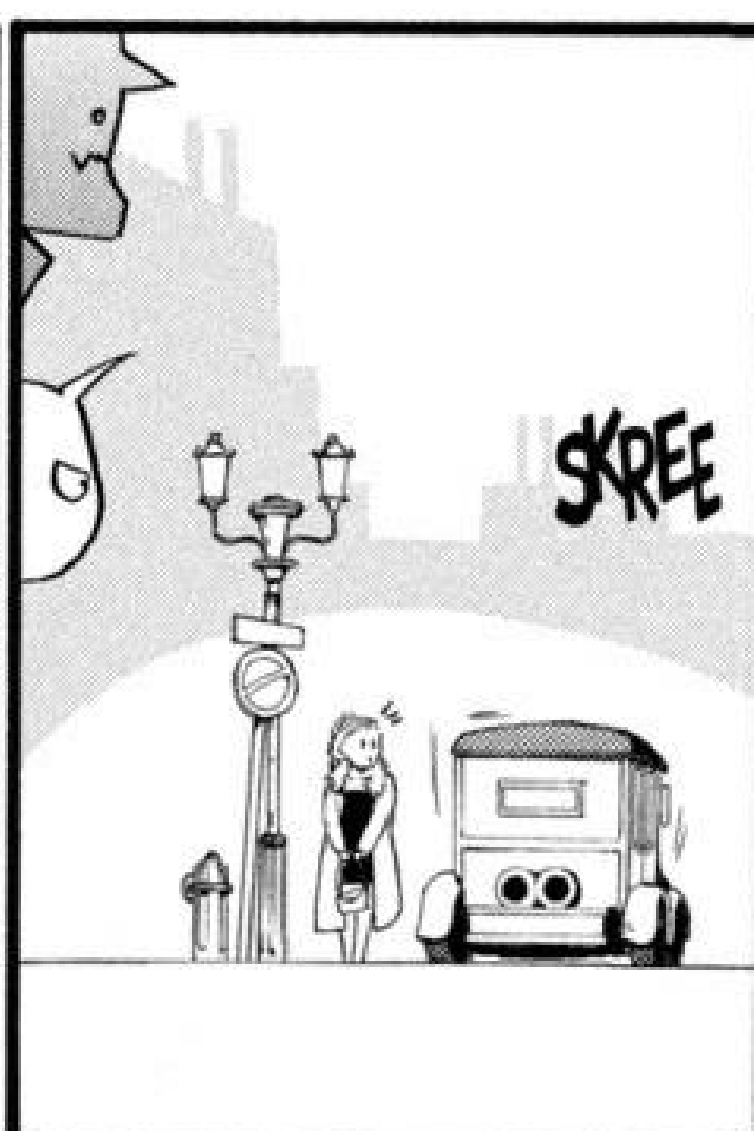
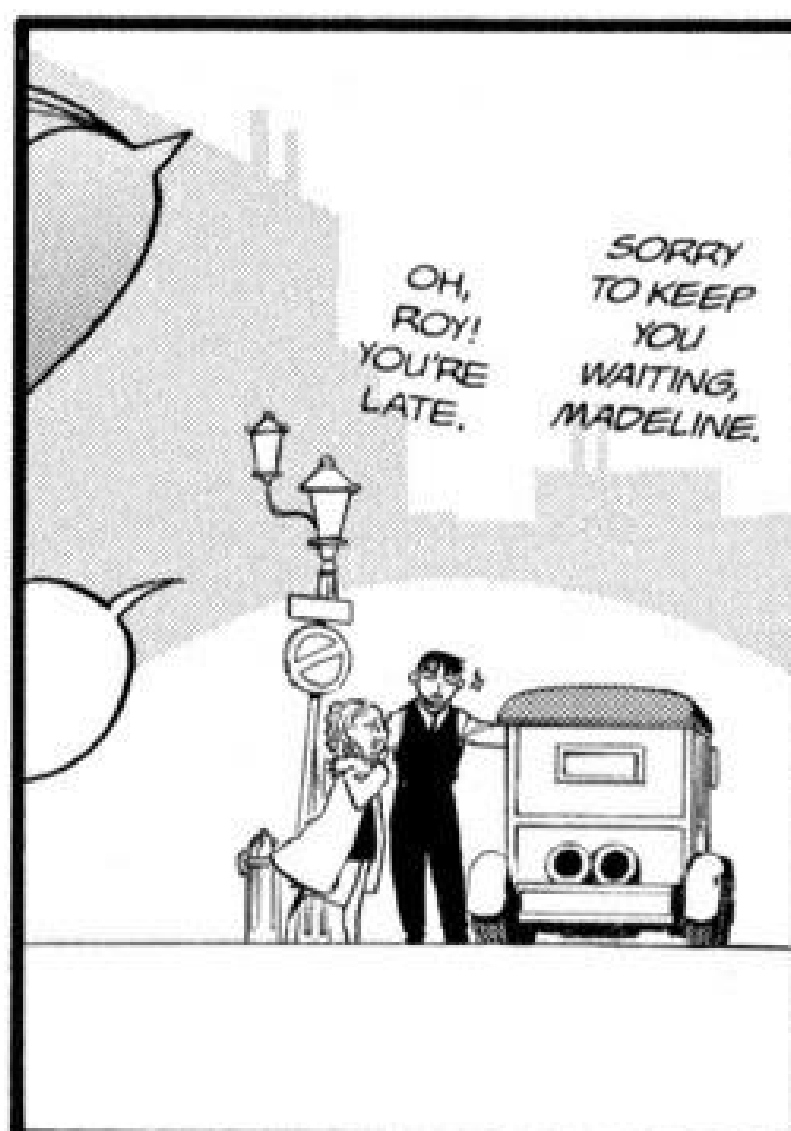
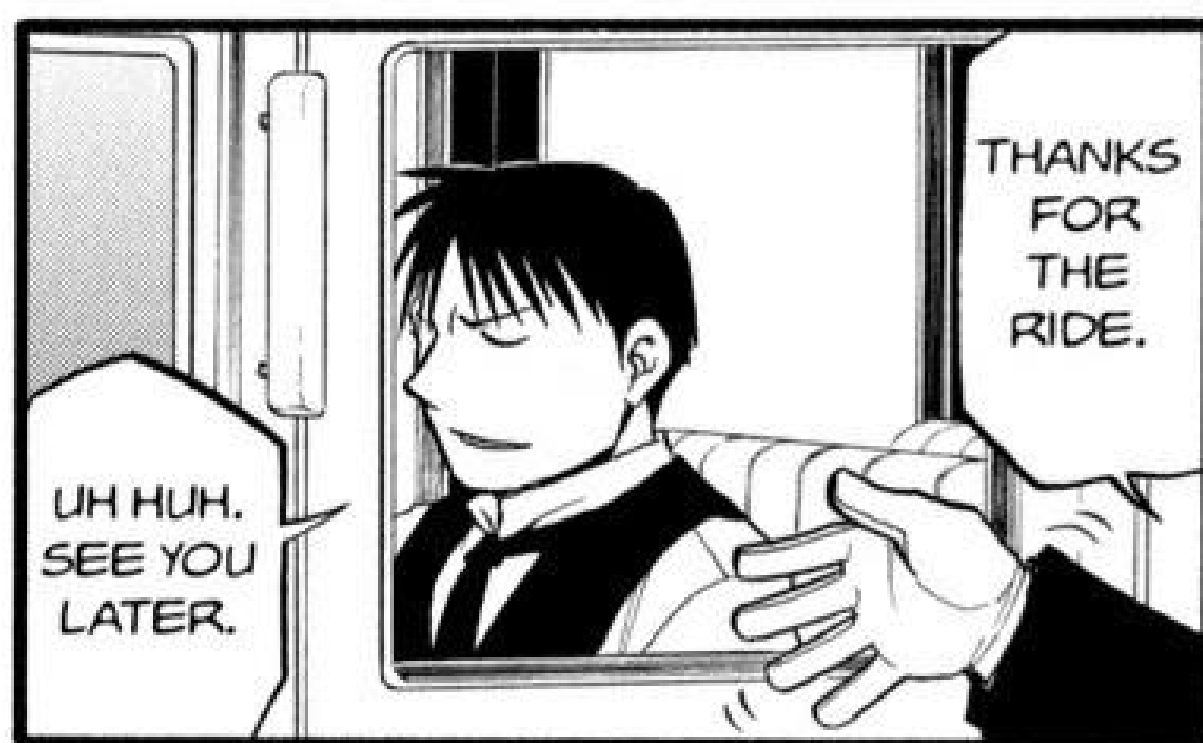
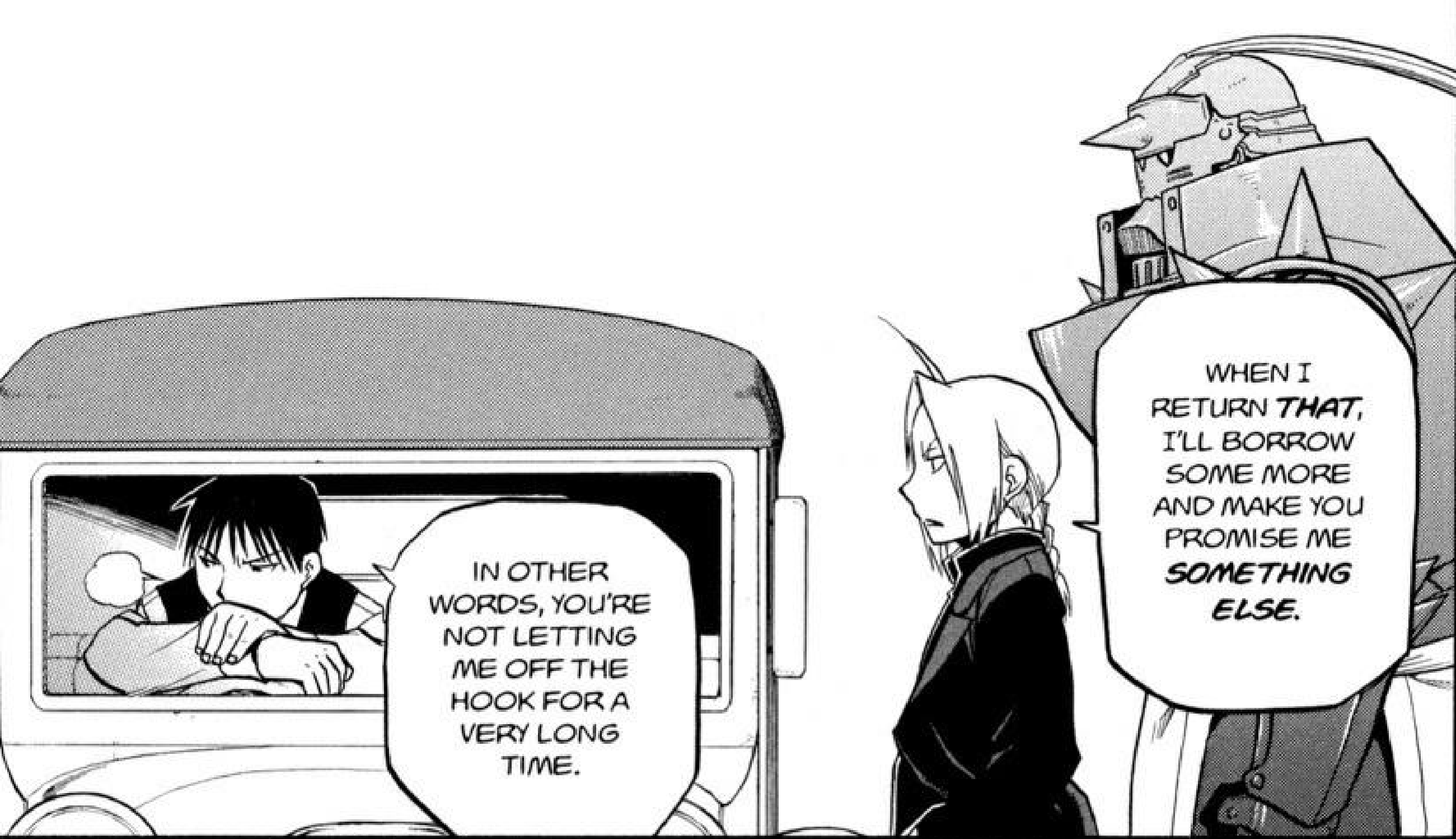
I'LL LEND
YOU THE
MONEY
FOR A
LITTLE
WHILE
LONGER.



AND YOU
WON'T GET
THAT MONEY
BACK TILL
THIS COUNTRY
**BECOMES A
DEMOCRACY.**

WHEN THAT
TIME COMES,
I'LL BE SURE
TO BORROW
SOME MORE.



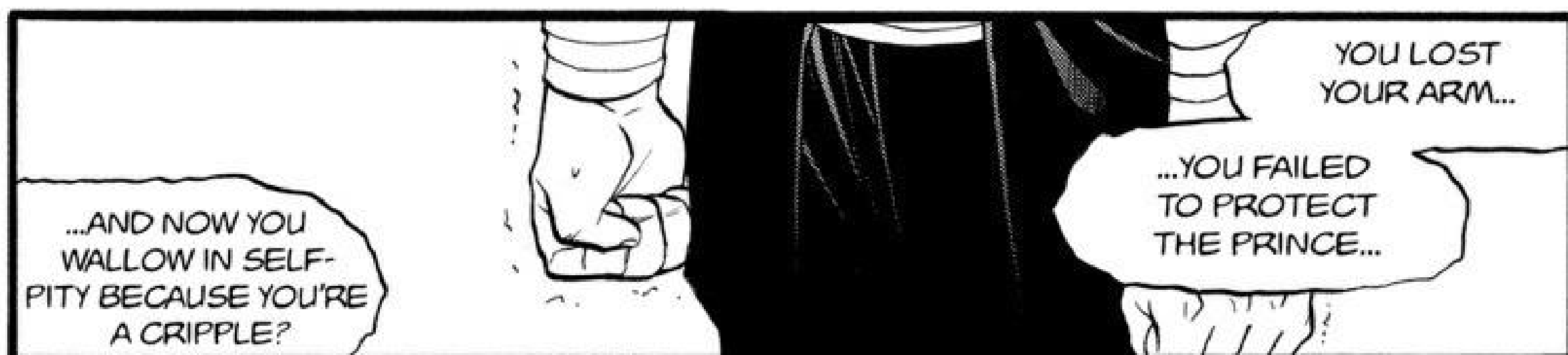
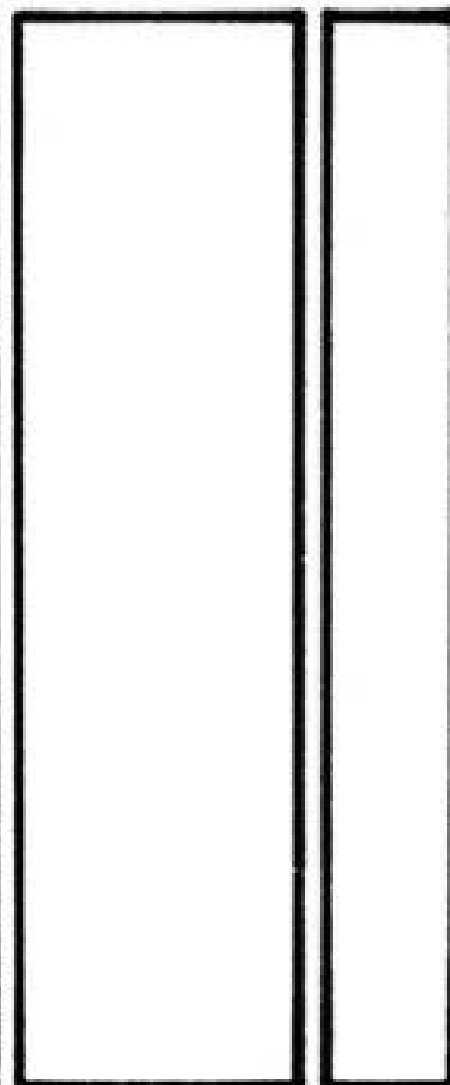
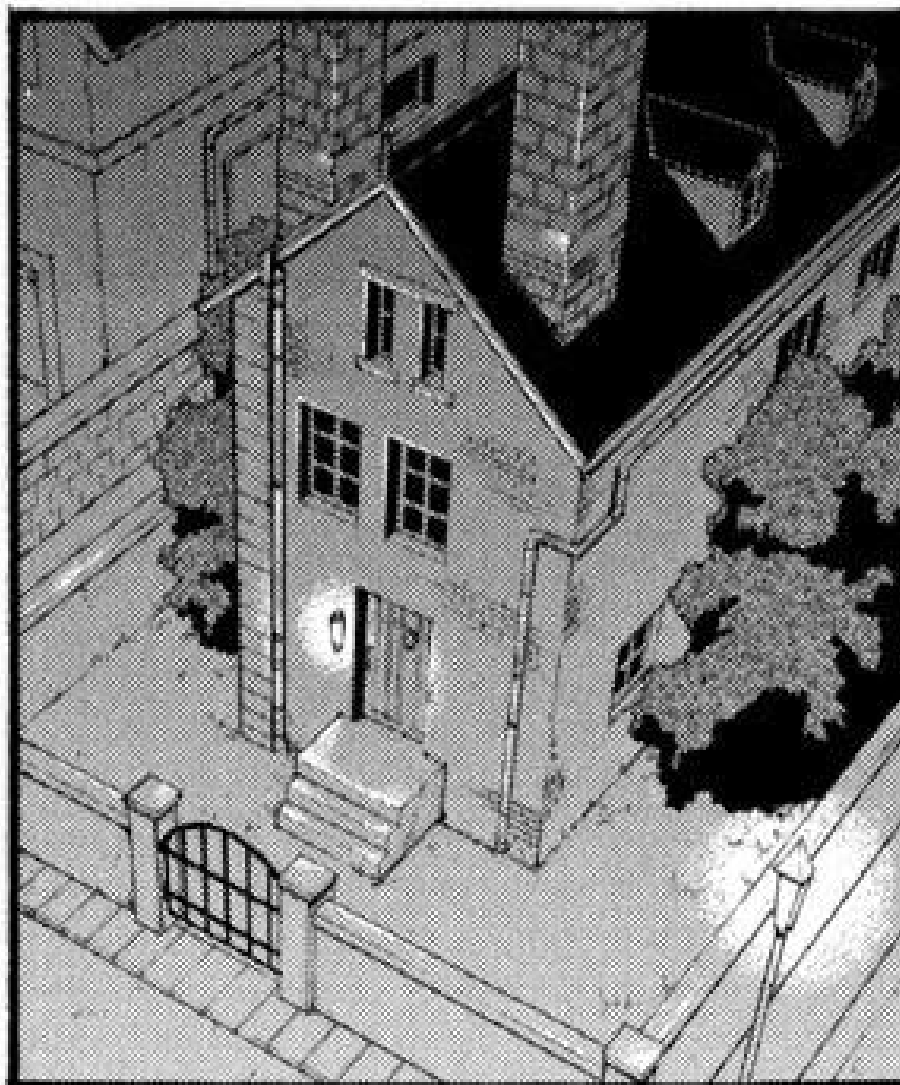
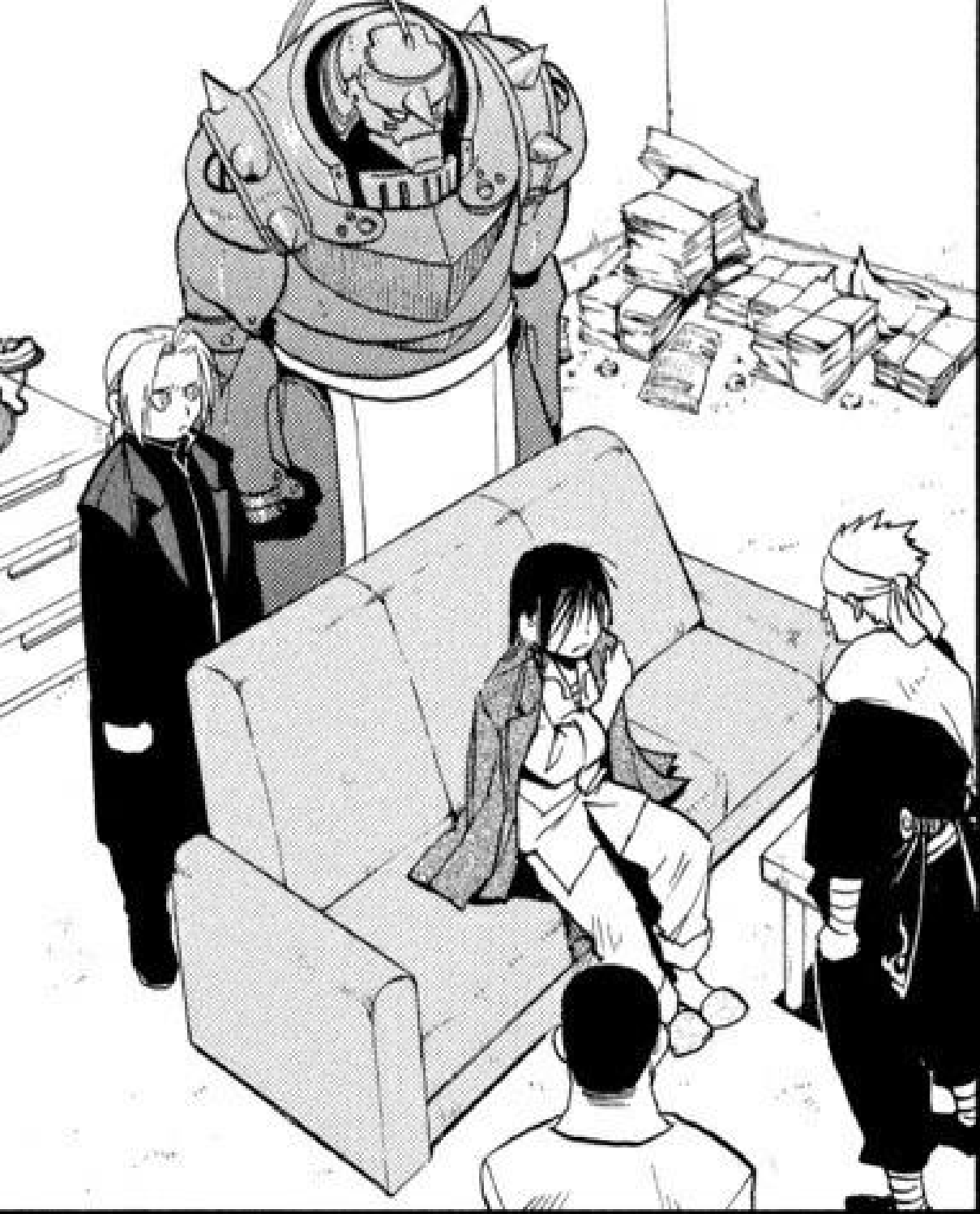


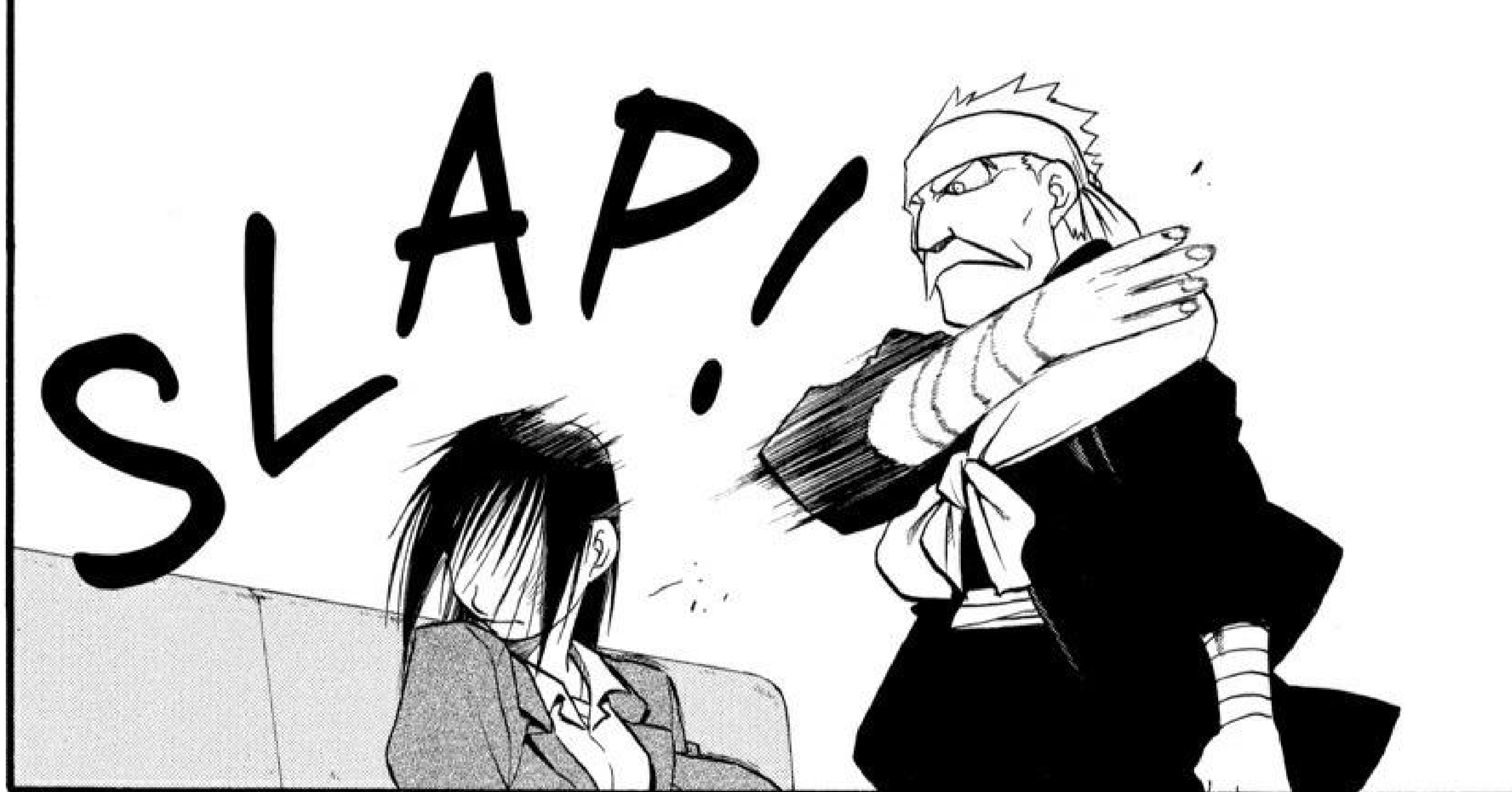
SLAM

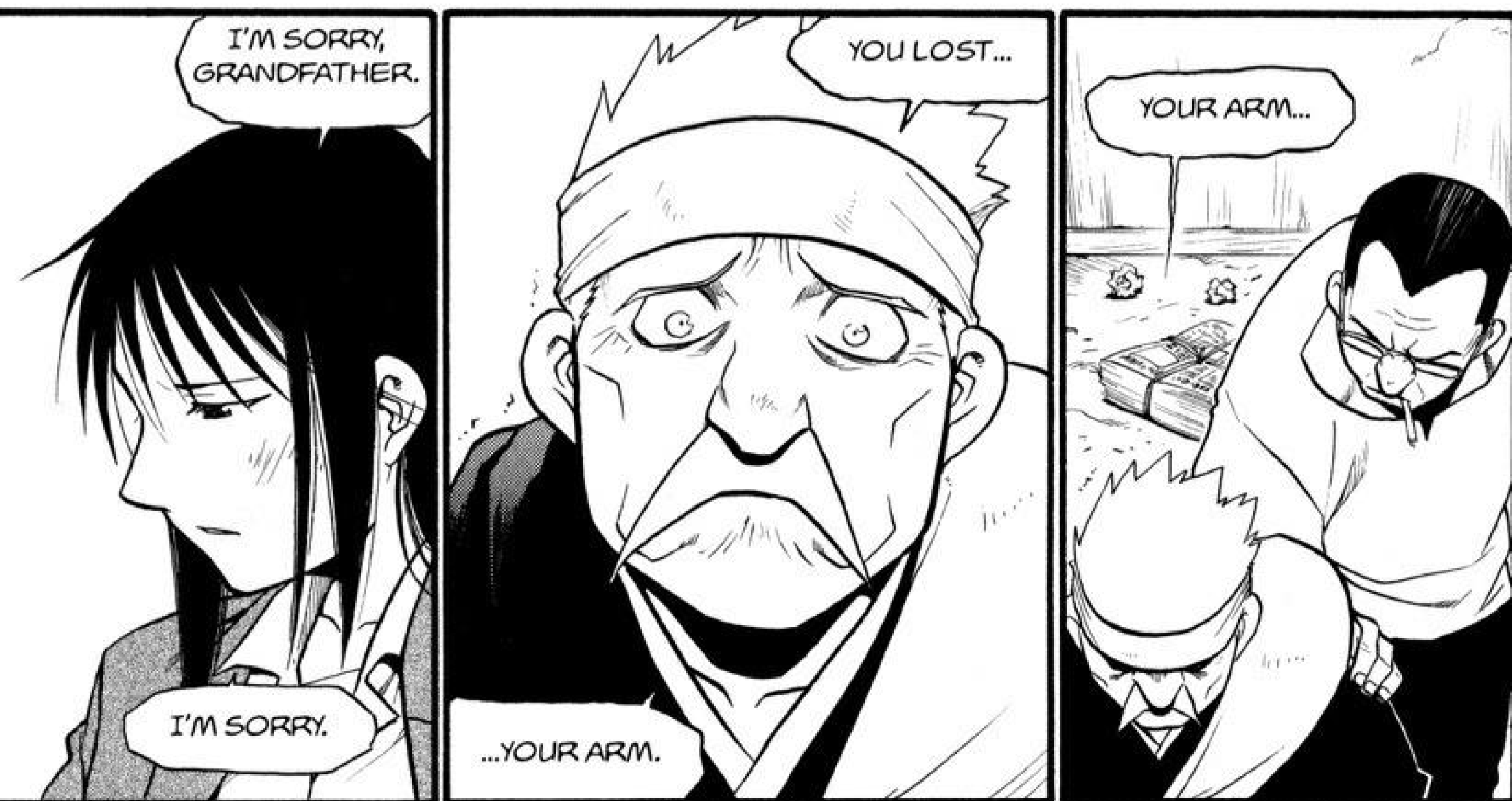
VROOOOM...

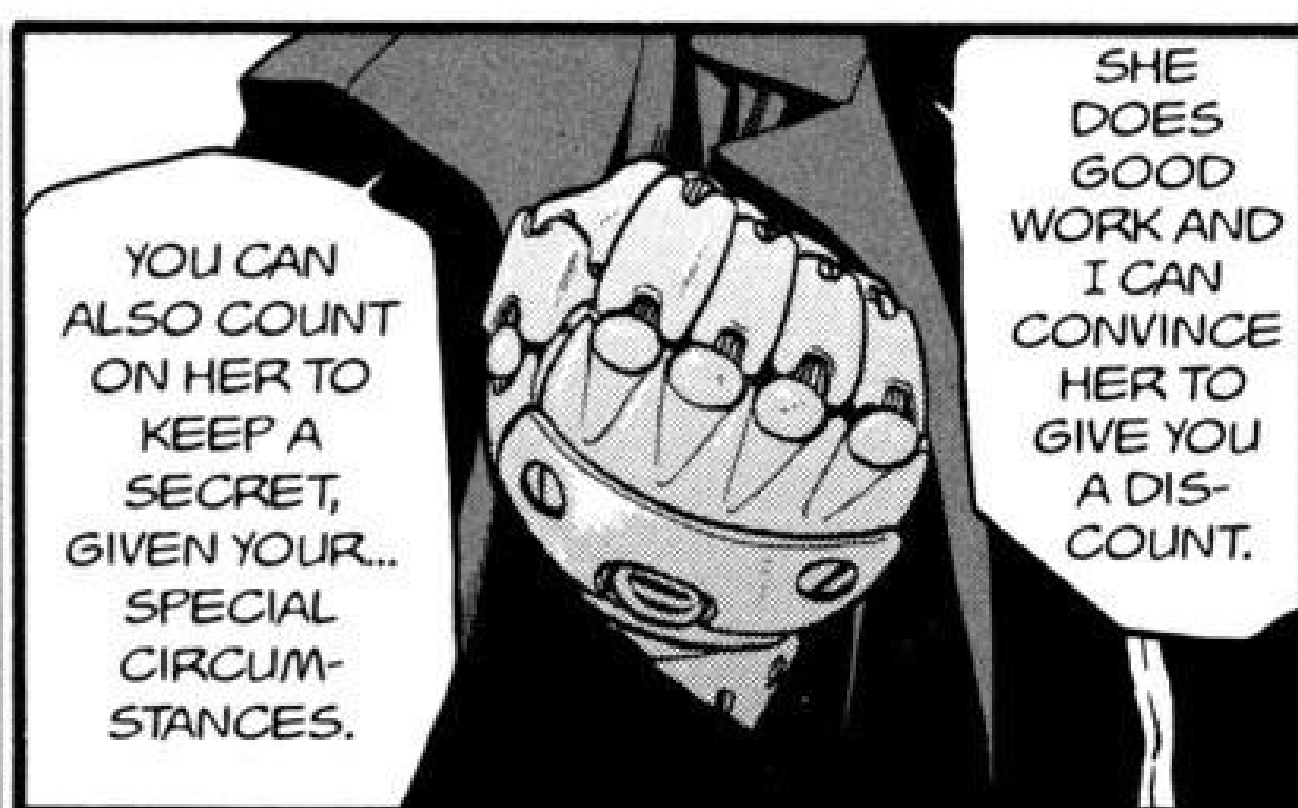








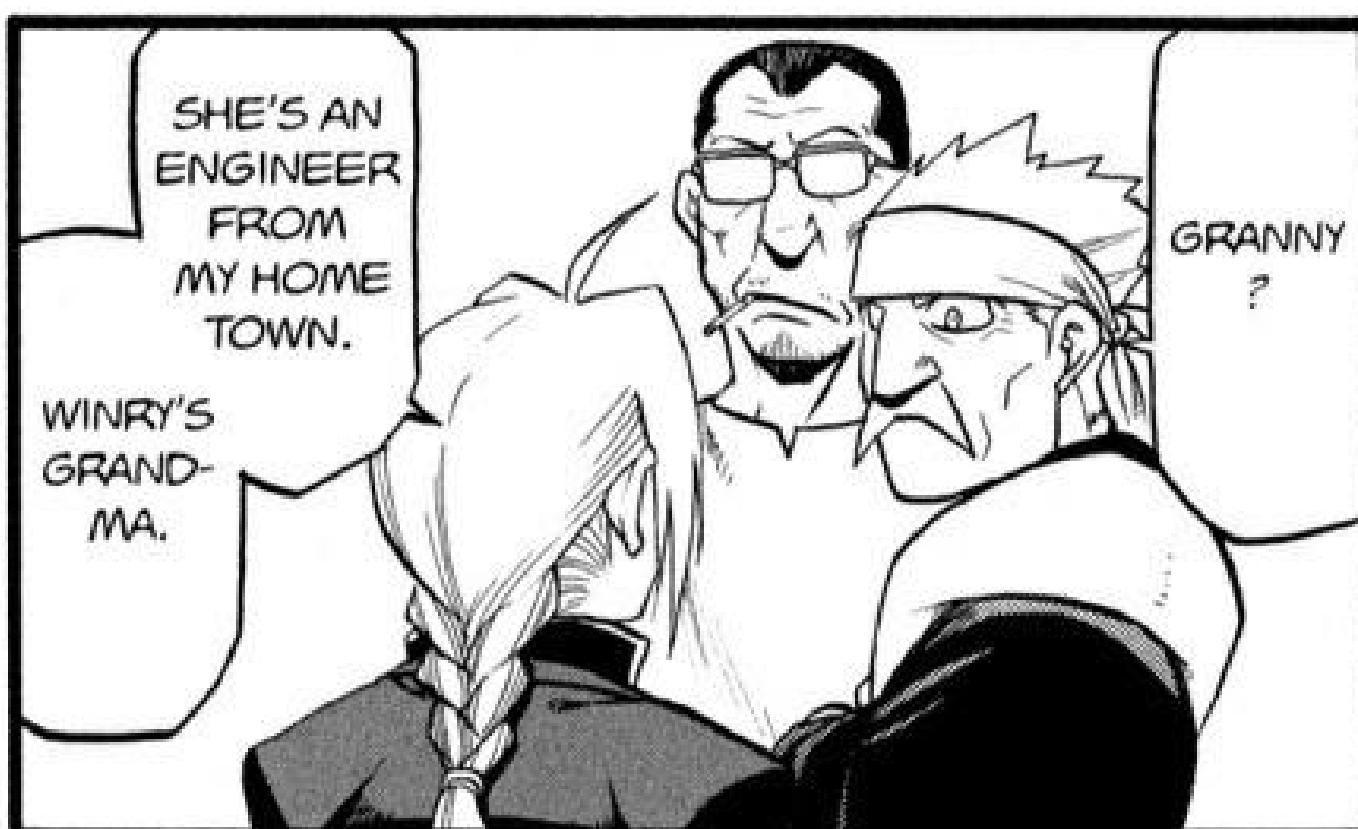






WHY?
SHE
GUARAN-
TEES
HER
WORK!

I
MUST
DE-
CLINE.



SHE'S AN
ENGINEER
FROM
MY HOME
TOWN.

WINRY'S
GRAND-
MA.

GRANNY
?



...AND THAT
YOU RESPECT
AND TRUST
THIS ROCKBELL
ENGINEER...

I KNOW
YOU ARE
TRYING
TO HELP
US...



BUT
WE
CAN'T
JUST
ABAN-
DON
YOU...

WE
CANNOT
ACCEPT
ANY MORE
OF YOUR
HELP.

WE WILL
FIND AN
AUTO-MAIL
ENGINEER
ON OUR
OWN
SOME-
HOW.



BUT
THAT'S
EXACTLY
WHY WE
CANNOT
ACCEPT
YOUR
OFFER.



DO
YOU
UNDER-
STAND,
BOY?

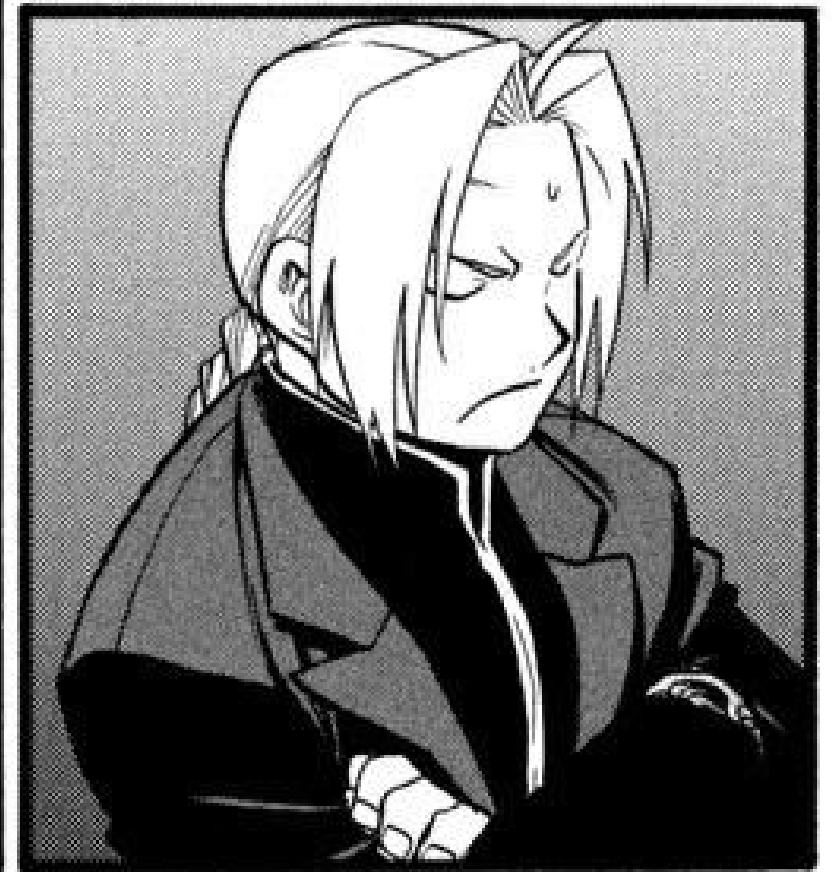
SOMETIMES IT
IS NECESSARY
TO DETACH
FROM OUR
EMOTIONS IN
ORDER TO
ACCOMPLISH
OUR GOAL.

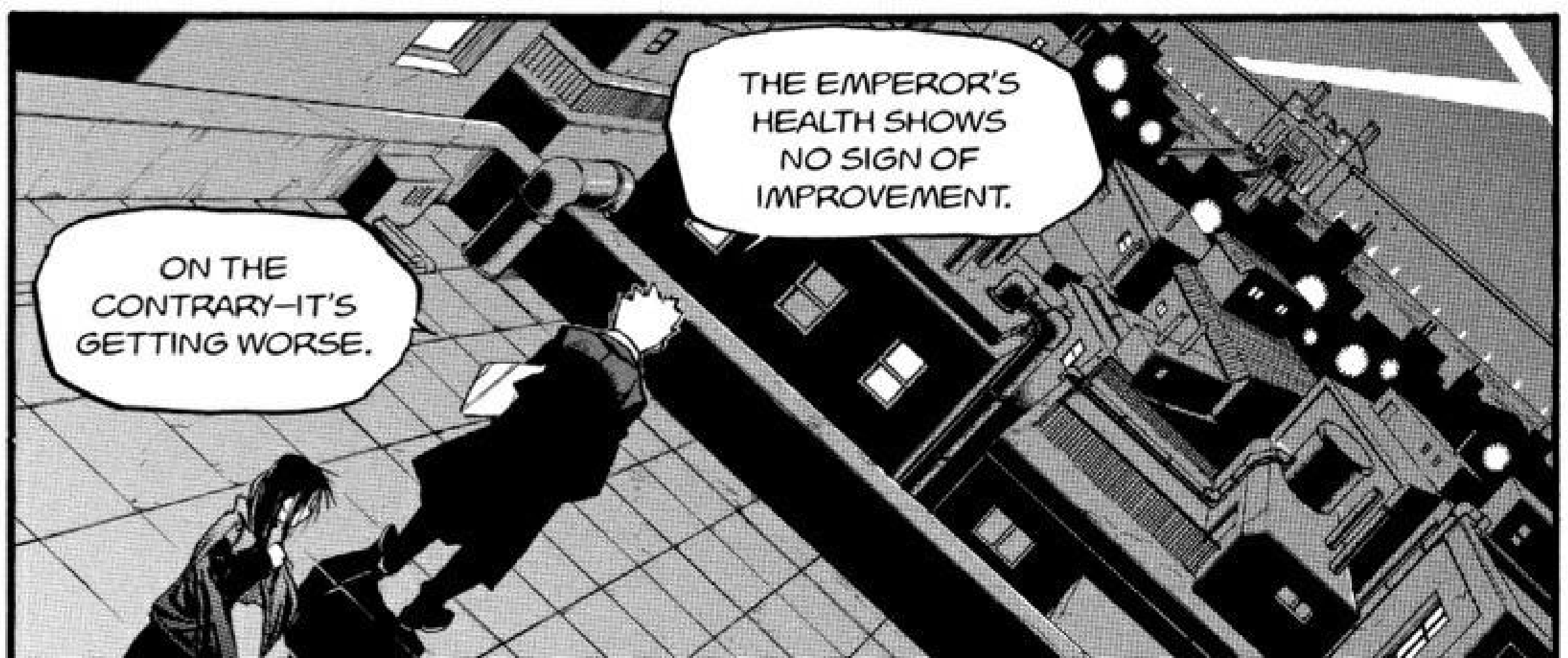
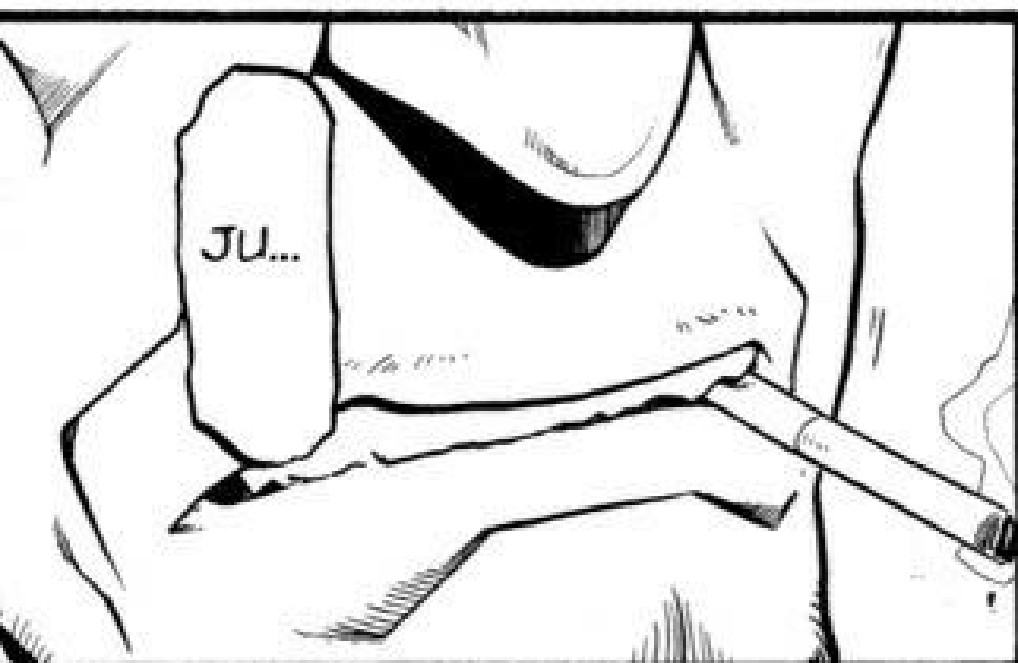


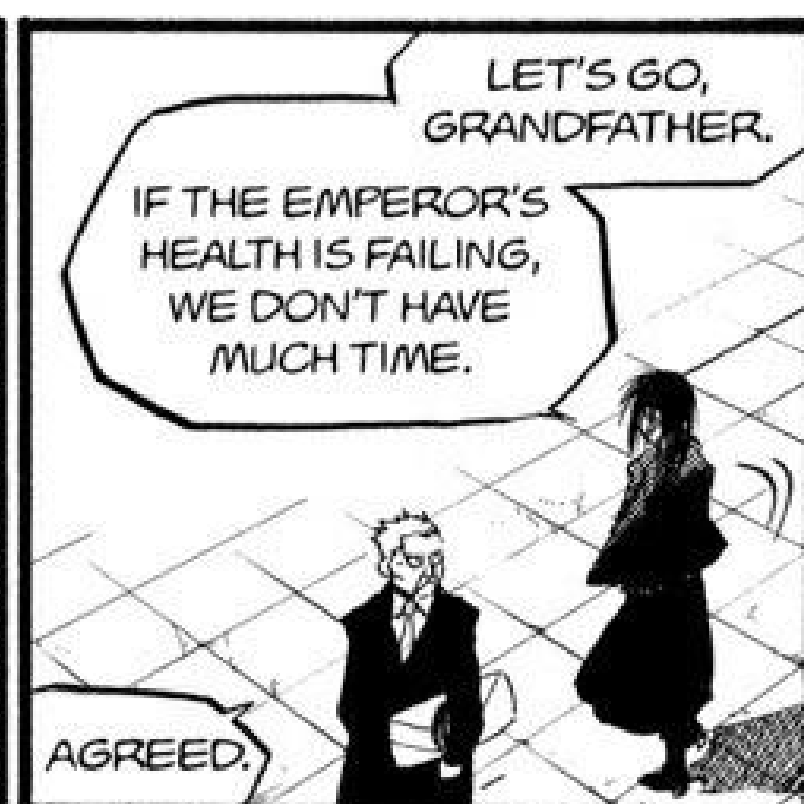
IF WE
ALLOW
OUR
ACTIONS
TO BE
DICTATED
BY SYMPATHY,
IT WILL
LEAD US
ALL TO
RUIN!

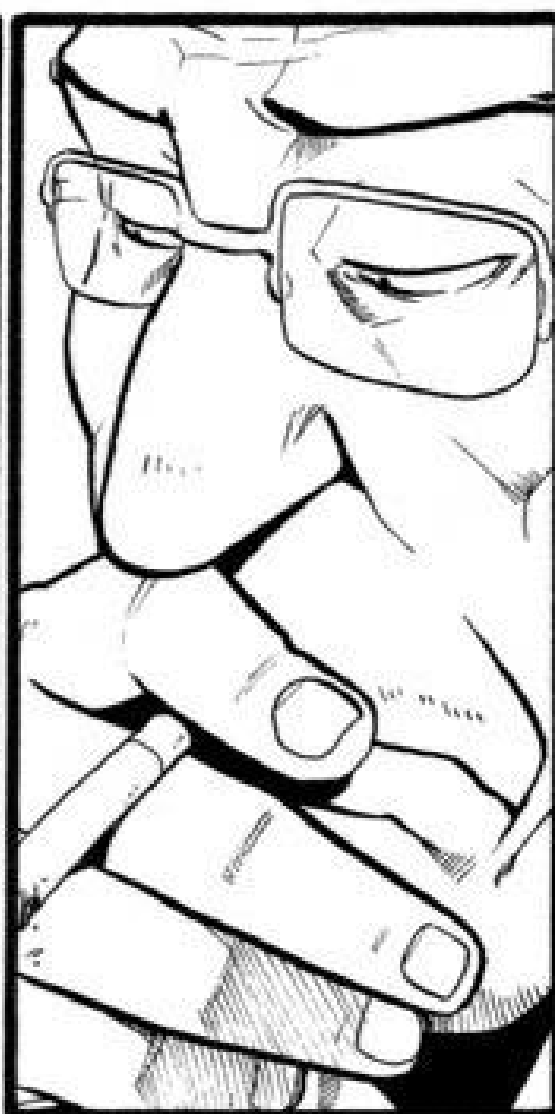
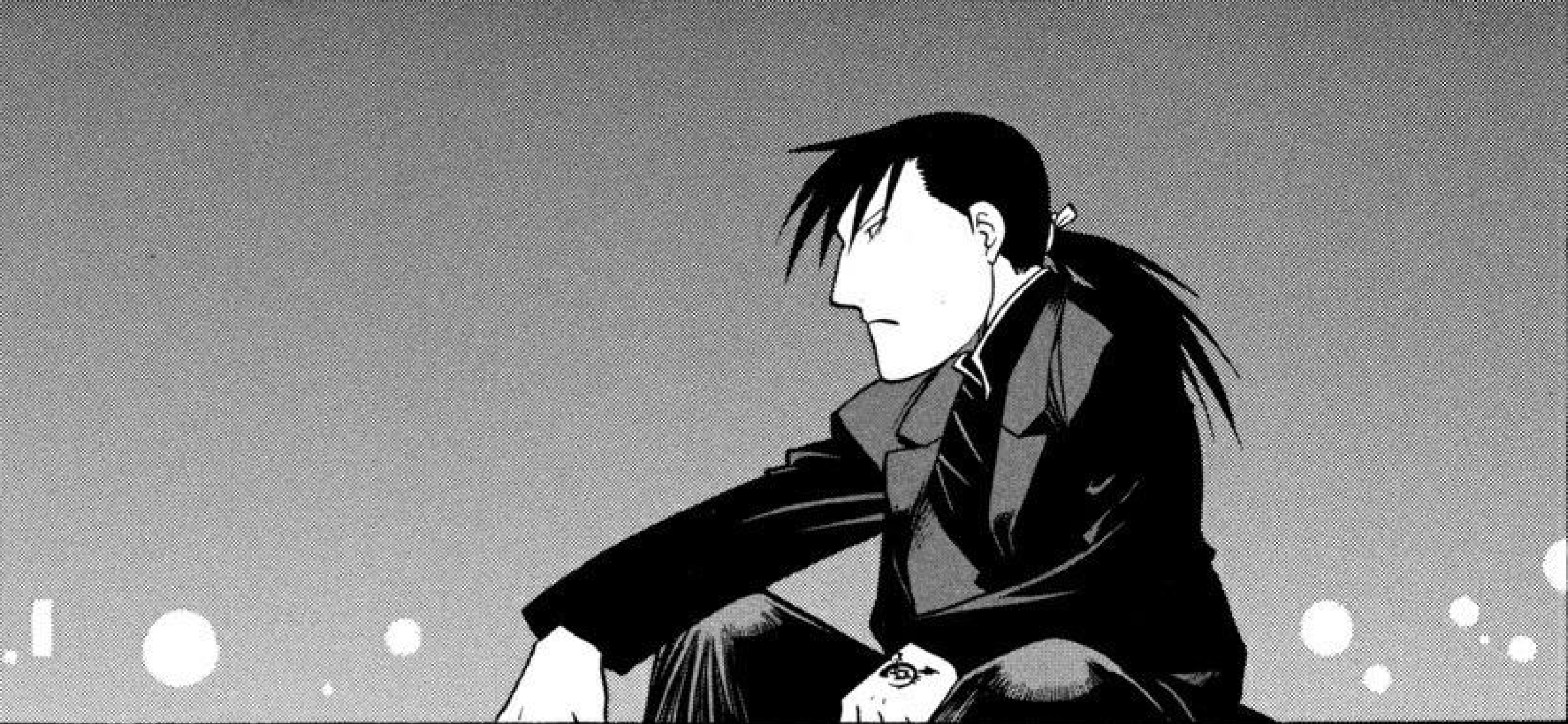


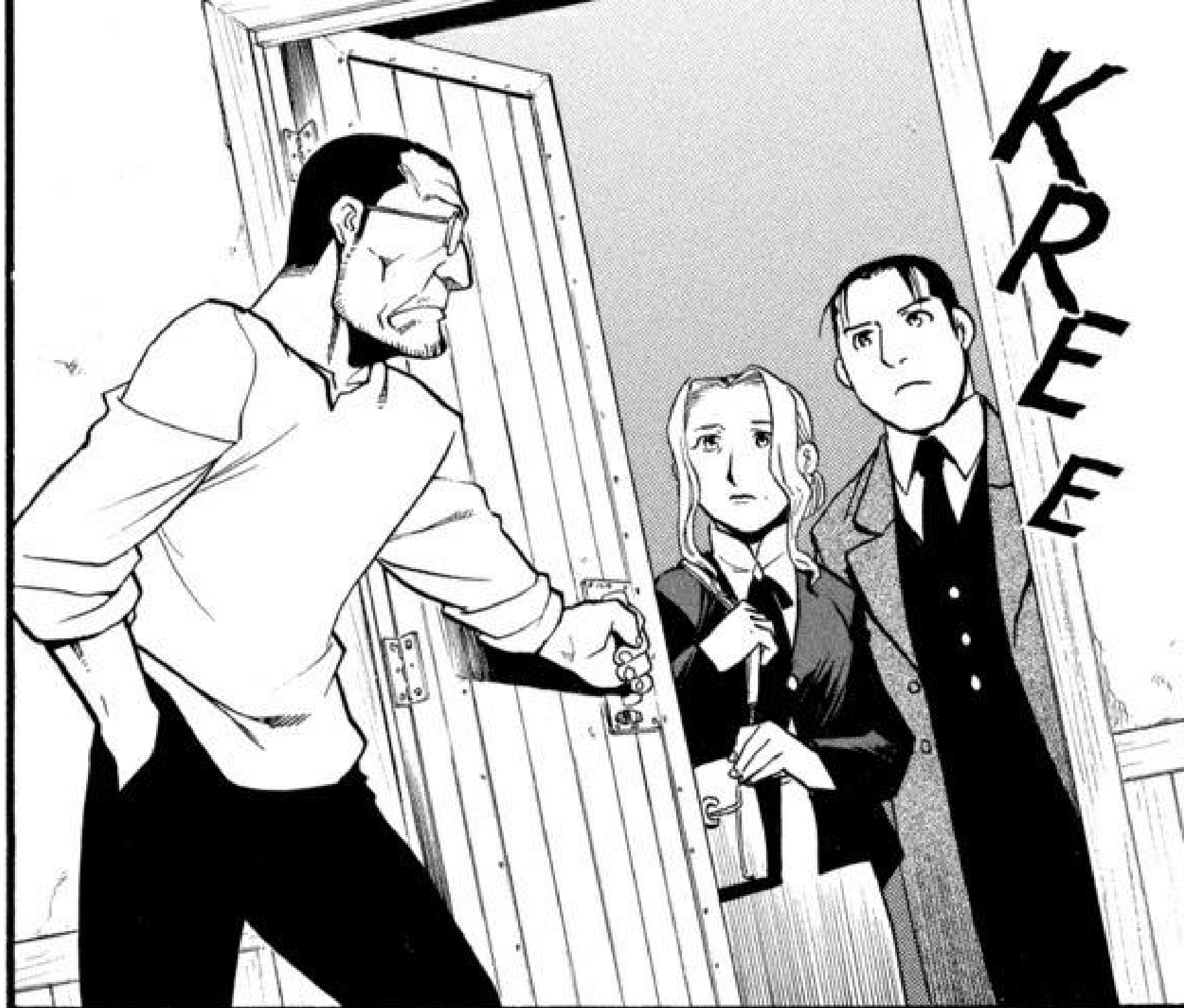
NOW
THAT THE
ENEMY
HAS BEGUN
TO TIGHTEN
THEIR GRIP,
WE MUST
BE MORE
CAREFUL
THAN EVER.





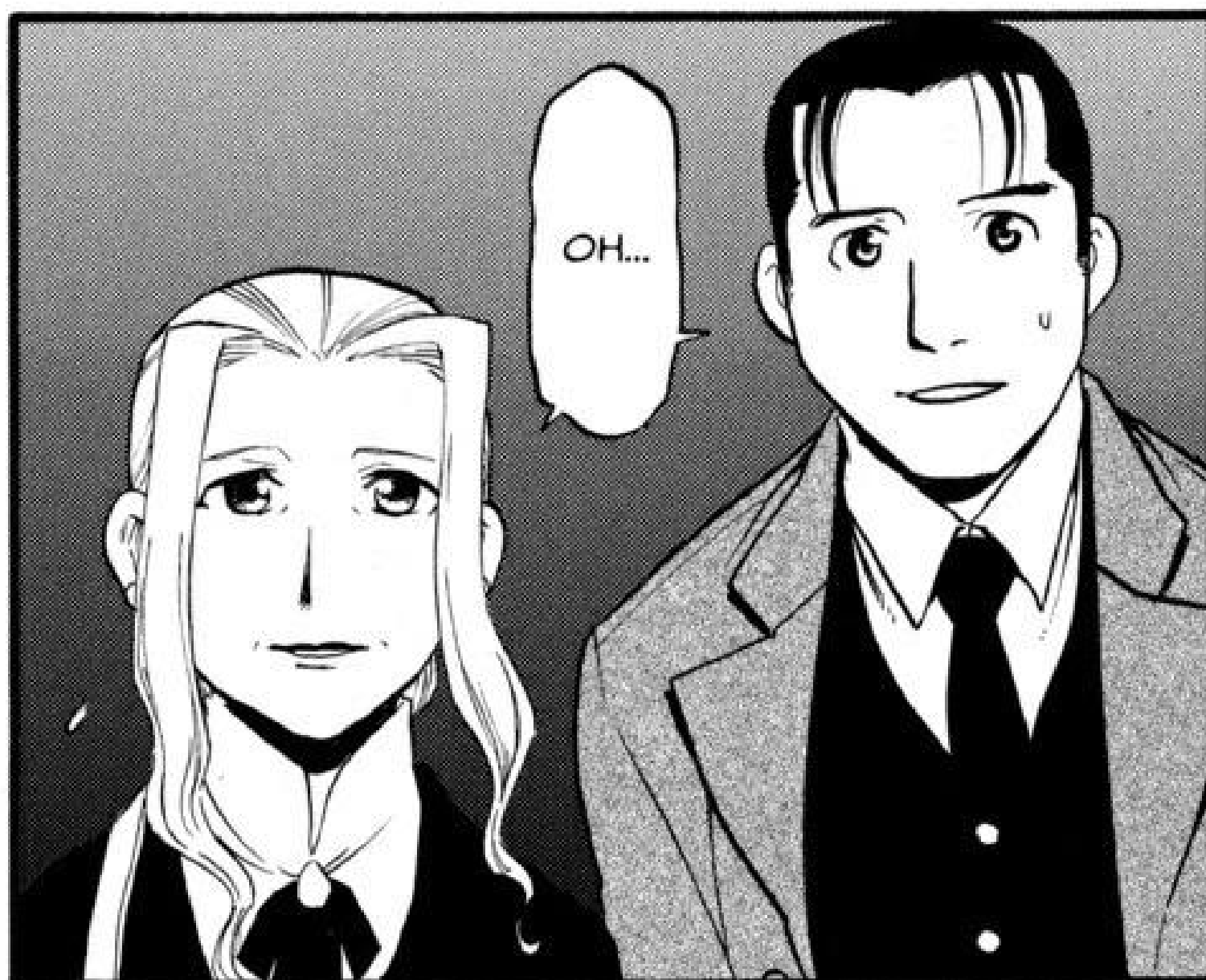






NOW,
WHO
COULD
THAT
BE?

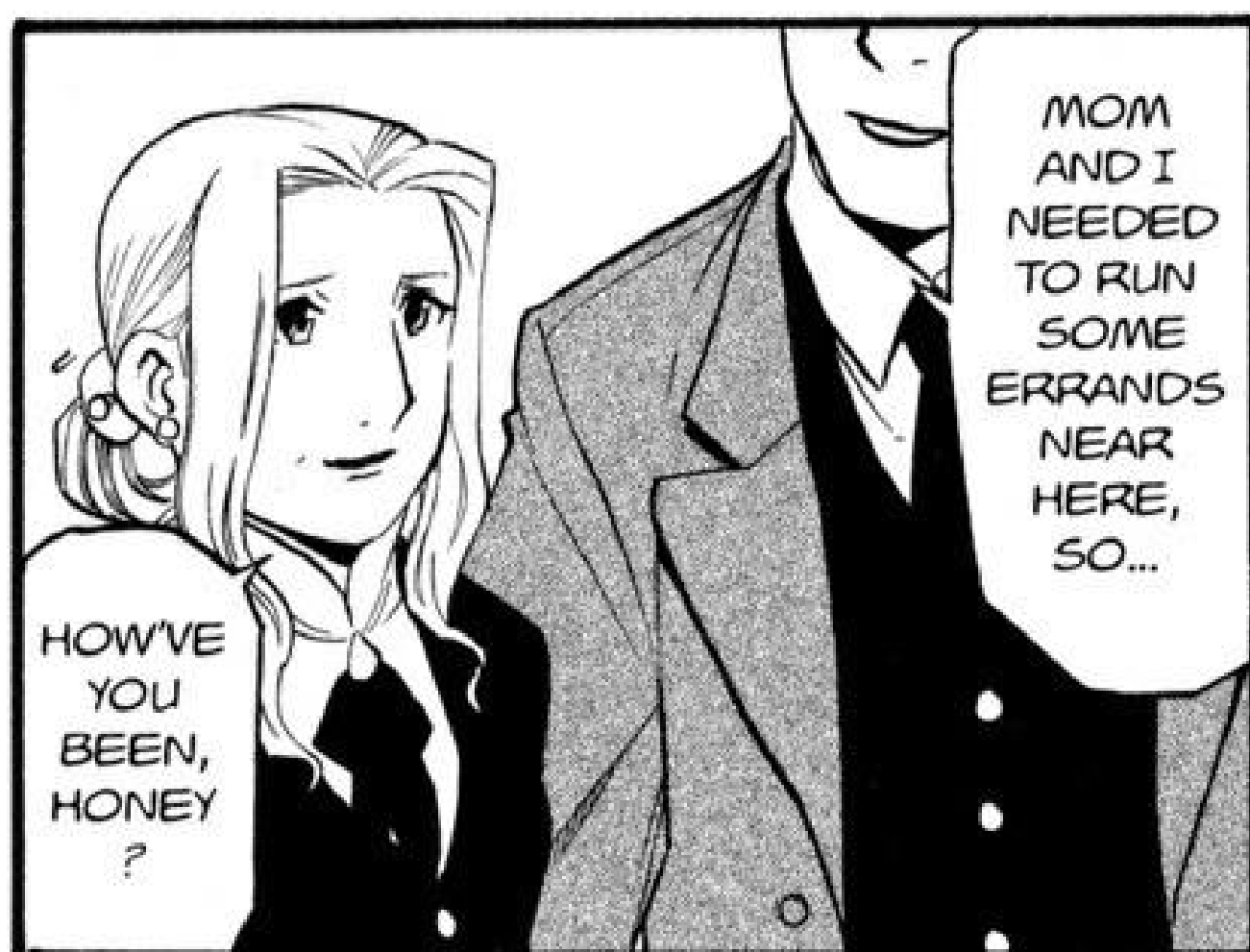
THE
ELRIC
BRATS
AGAIN
?



OH...



...OH...



HOW'VE
YOU
BEEN,
HONEY
?

MOM
AND I
NEEDED
TO RUN
SOME
ERRANDS
NEAR
HERE,
SO...



IT'S
BEEN
A
LONG
TIME.

GOOD
EVENING,
DAD.



YOUR JOB...
ARE YOU
STILL
WORKING
AS A
PATHOLO-
GIST?

YEAH.

JUST
A LOT
OF
BODIES,
AS
USUAL...



YOU TOO.
ARE YOU
EATING
PROPERLY
?

I HOPE
YOU'RE
NOT
WORKING
TOO
HARD.

AND YOU...
DID YOU
LOSE
WEIGHT?
YOU LOOK
THIN.



...NOT
BAD.



I DID
TREAT A
COUPLE OF
PATIENTS
THE
OTHER
DAY.

ACTU-
ALLY...



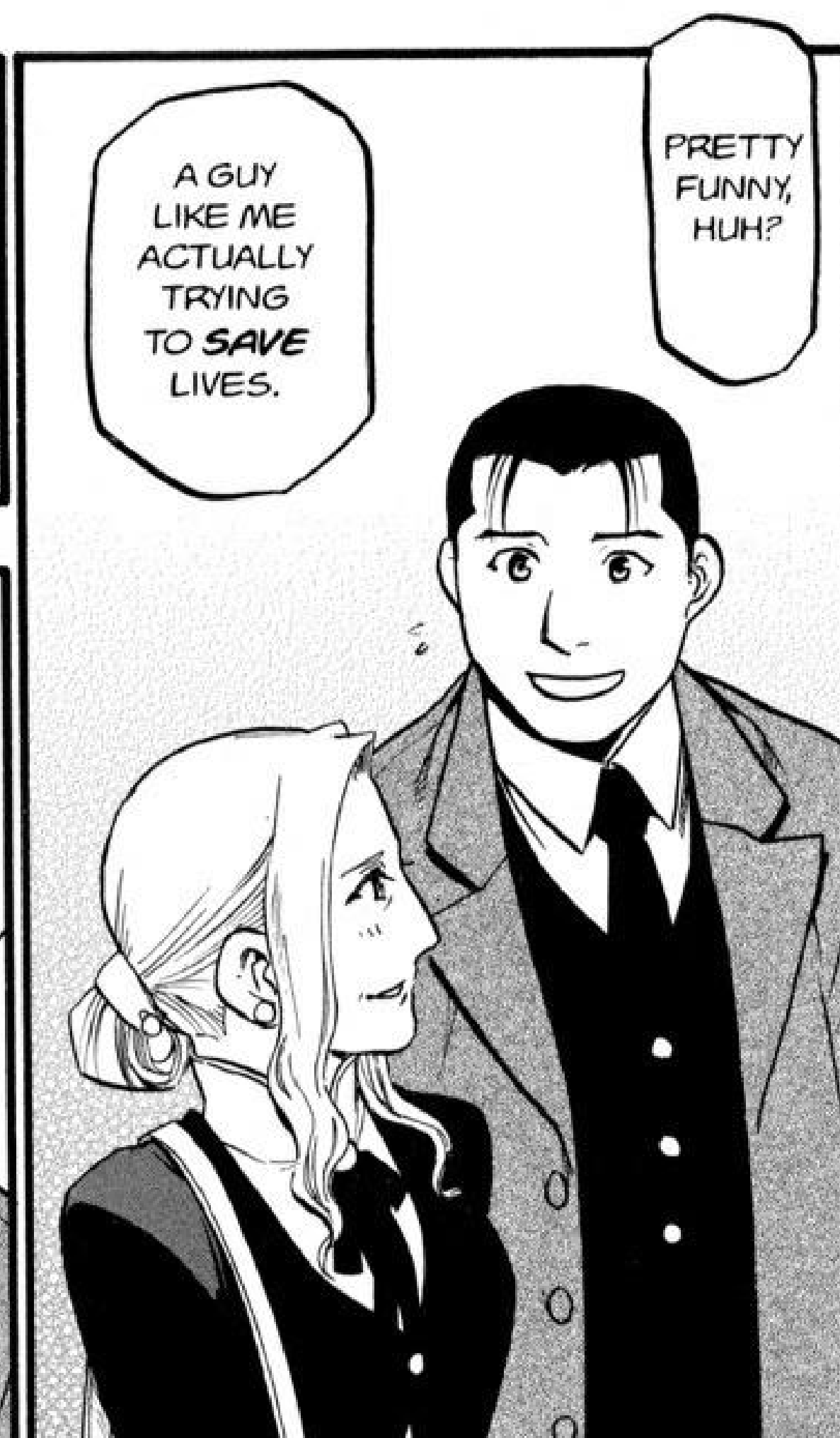
...YOU
HAVEN'T
FOR-
GOTTEN
YOUR
DUTY
AS A
DOCTOR.

I'M
GLAD...



THAT
REMINDS
ME, DAD-
I'VE
STARTED
STUDYING
MEDICINE!

WHAT
!?



A GUY
LIKE ME
ACTUALLY
TRYING
TO **SAVE**
LIVES.

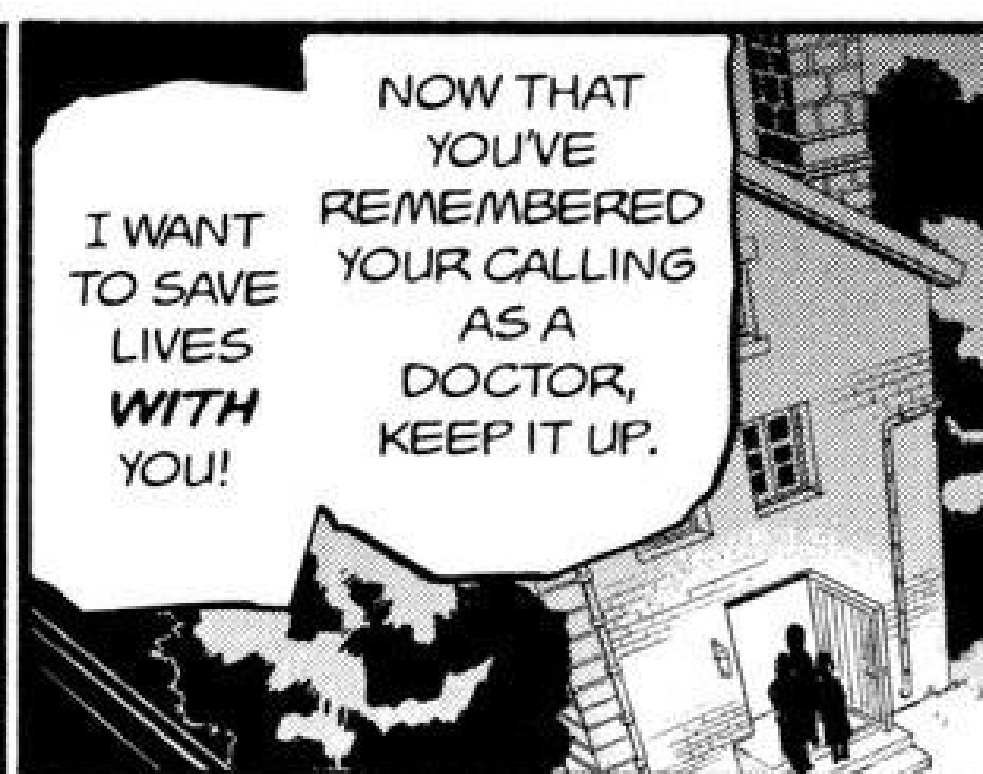
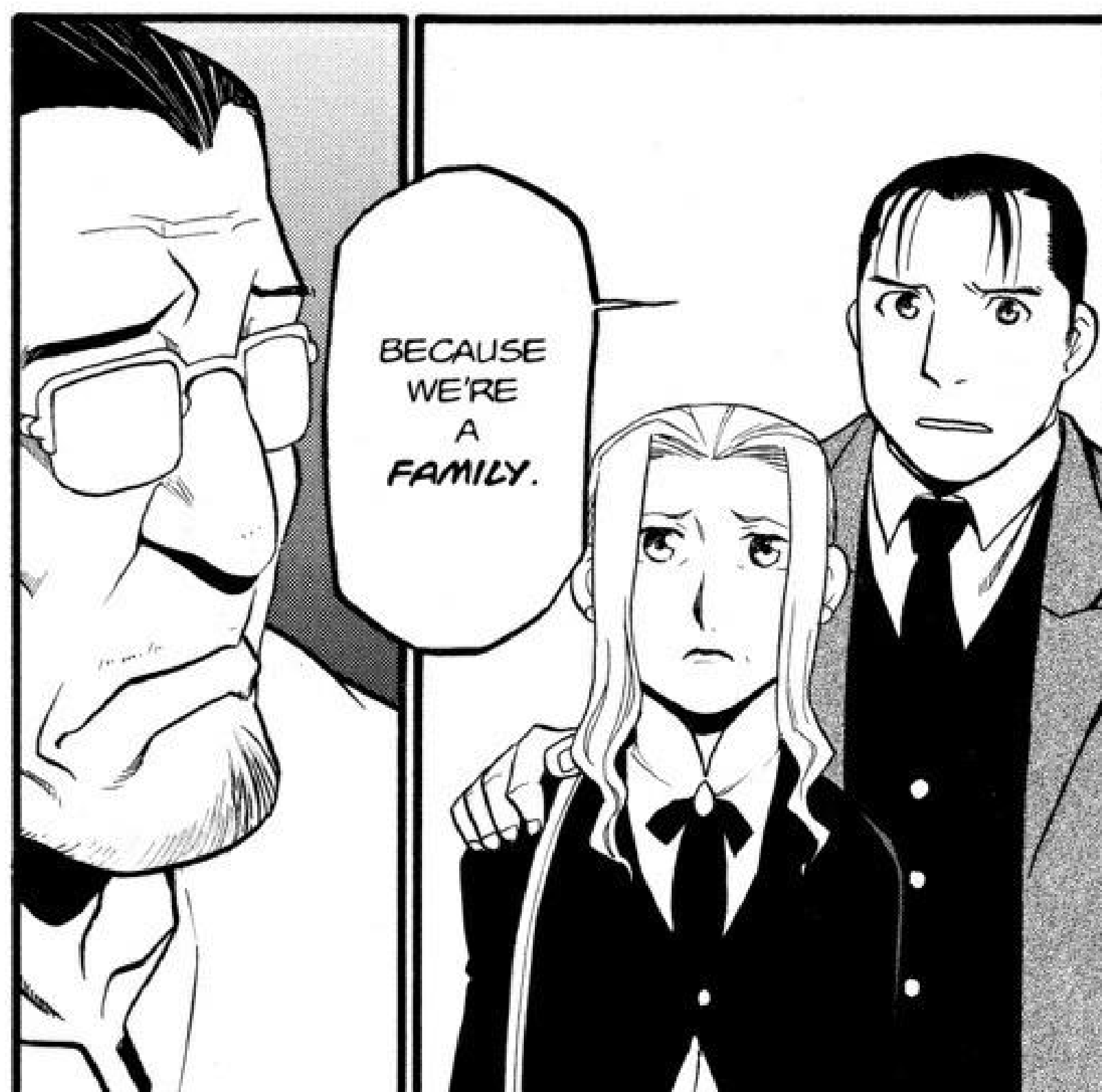
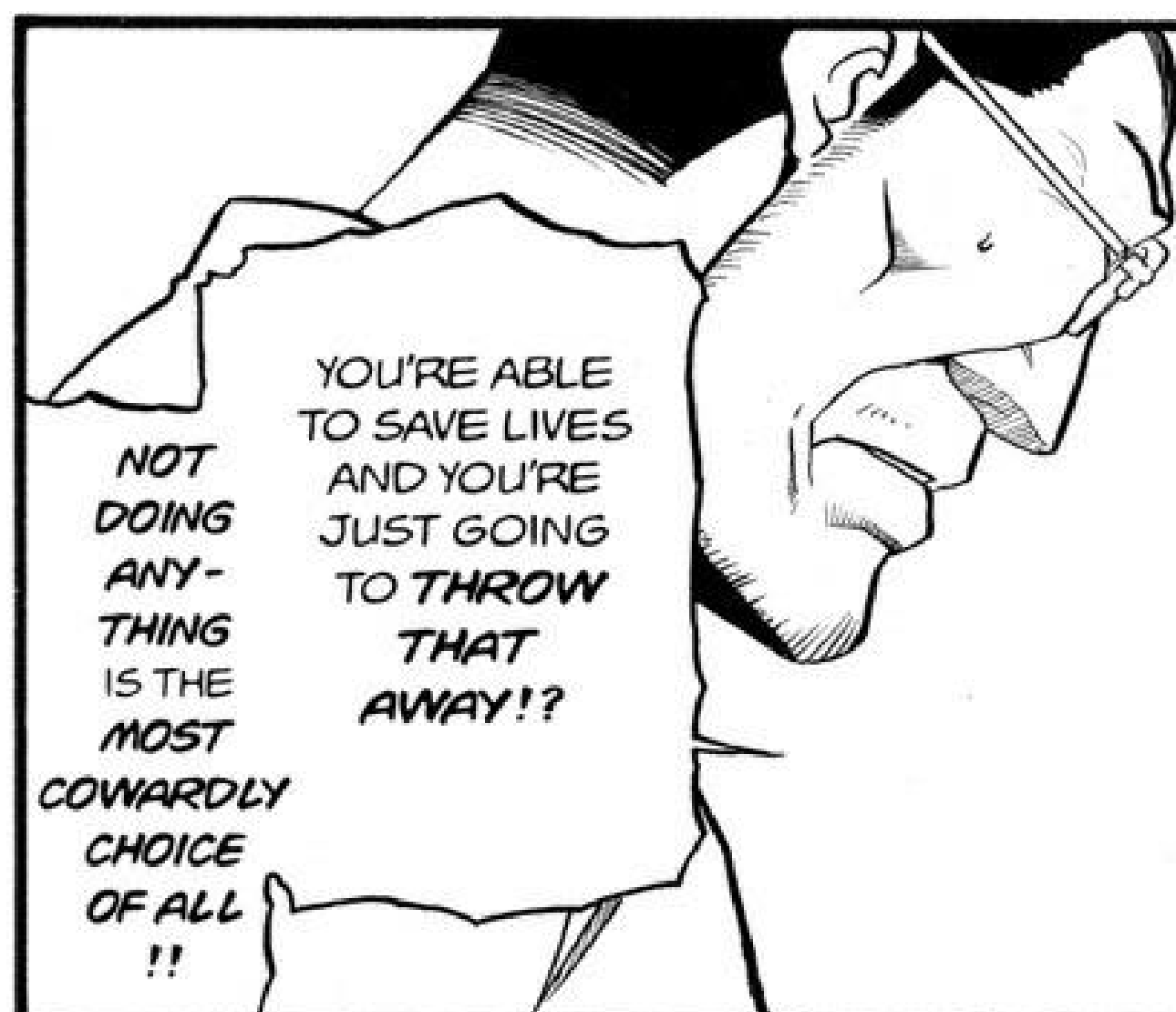
PRETTY
FUNNY,
HUH?

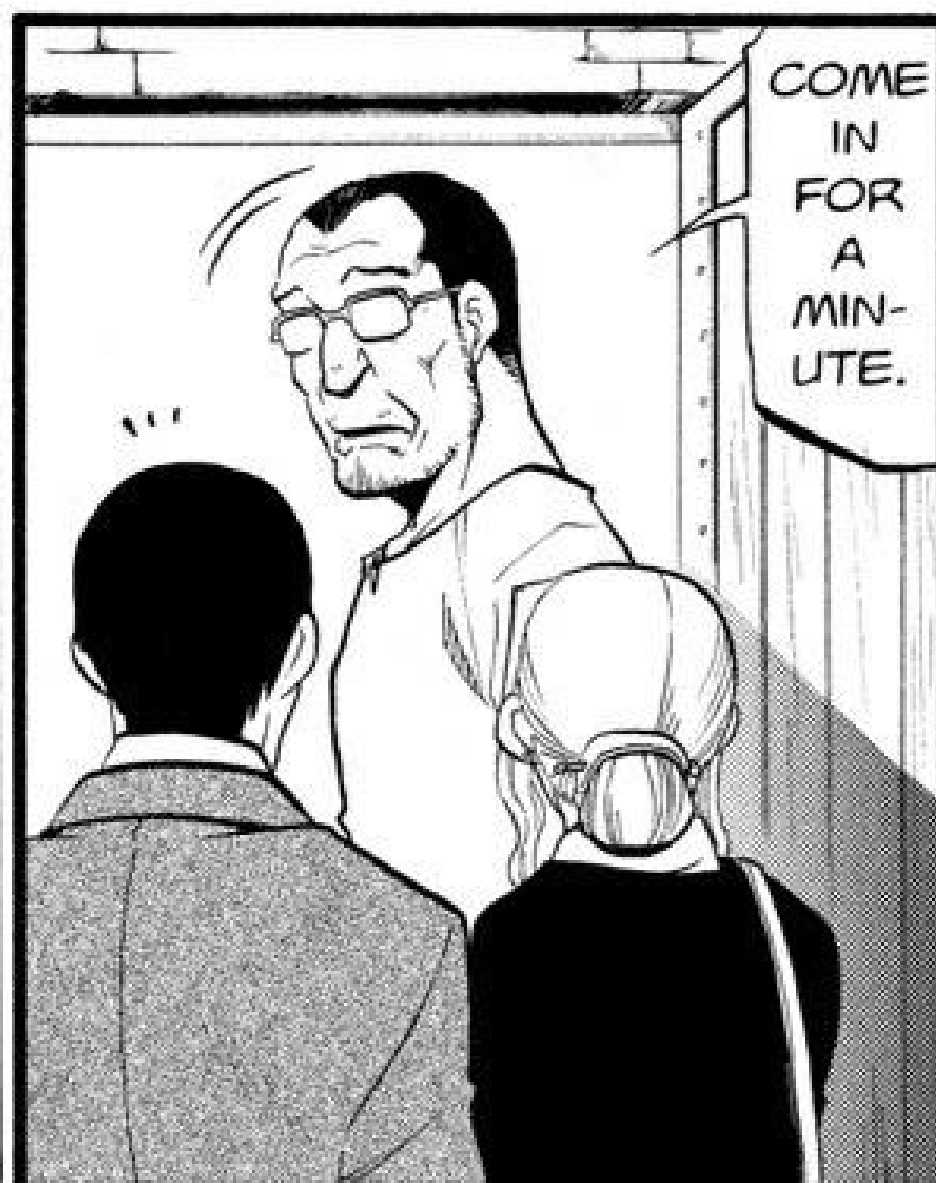


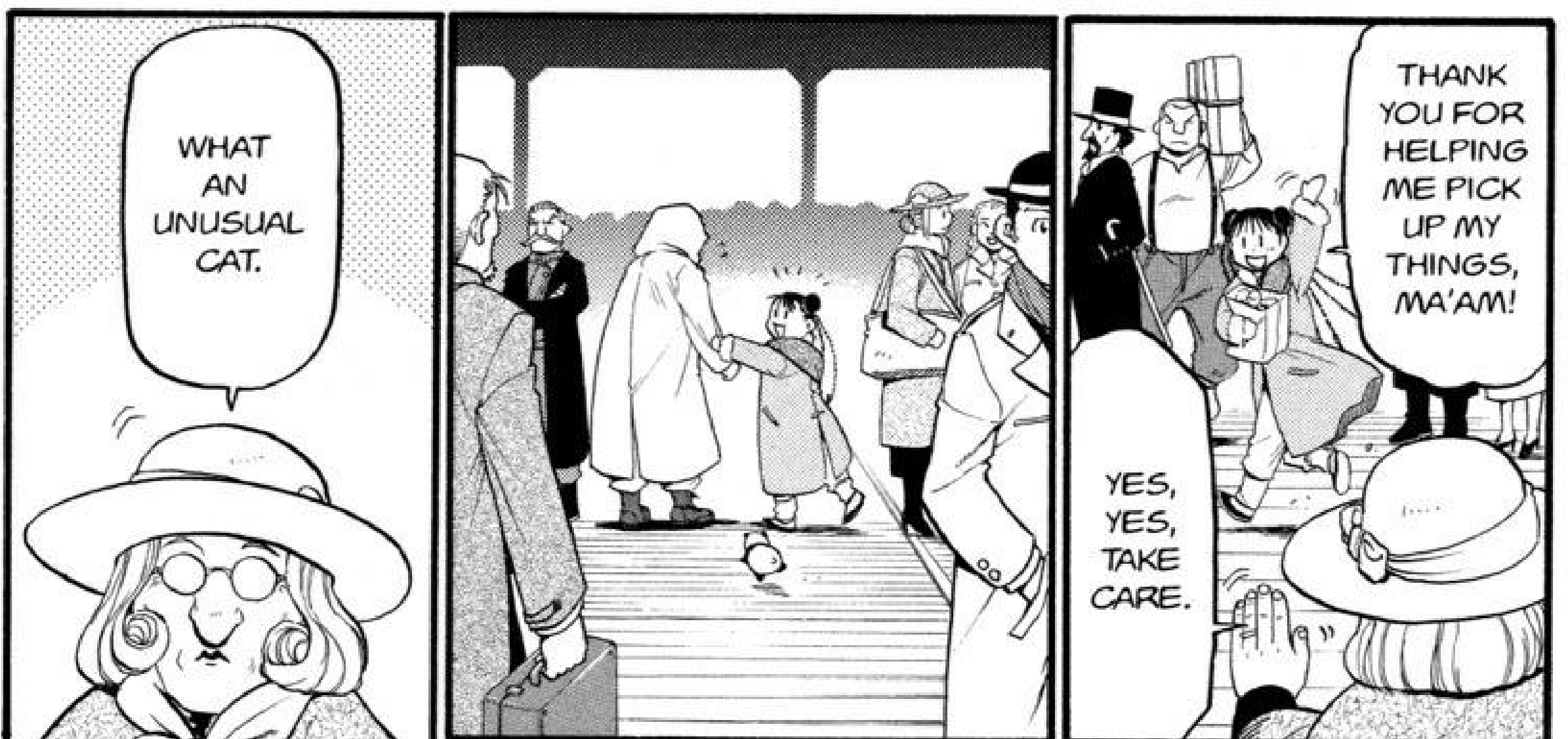
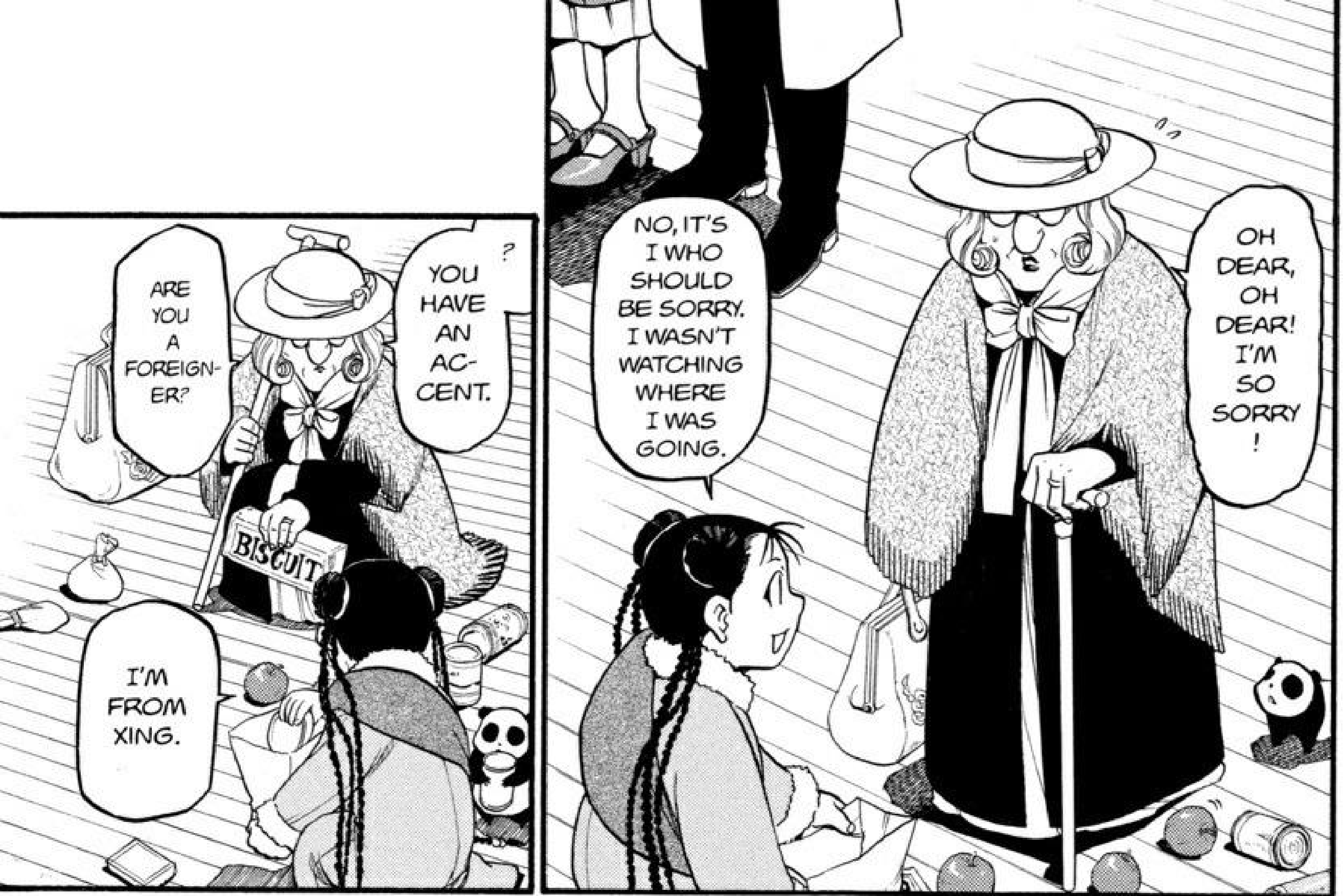
DAD, WHAT YOU DID IS **UNFORGIVABLE.**

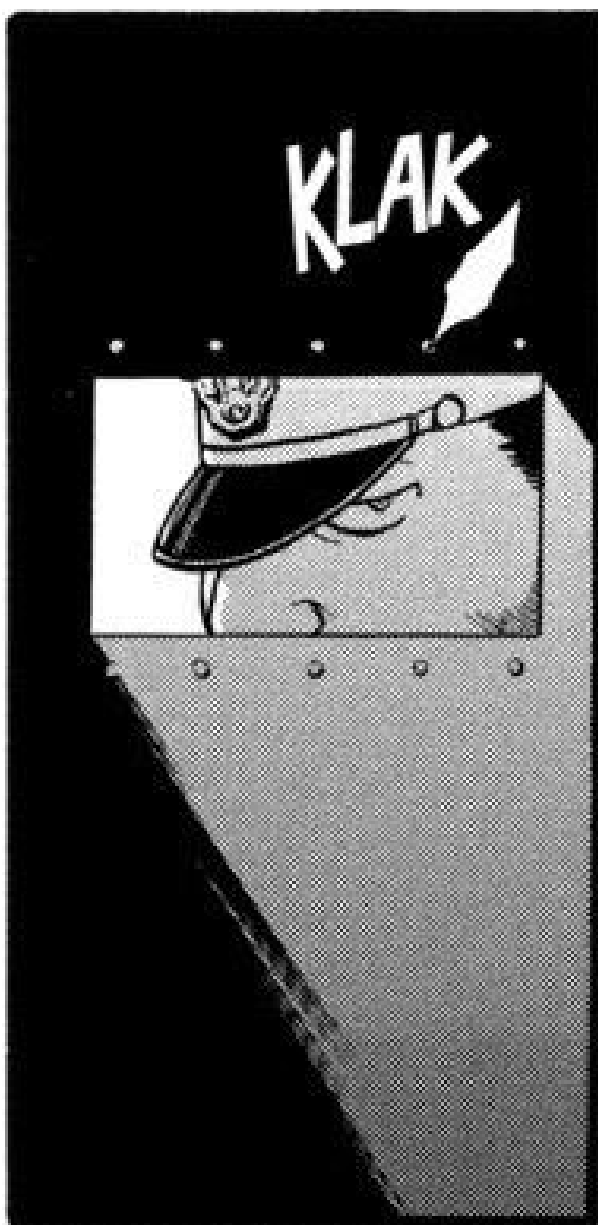
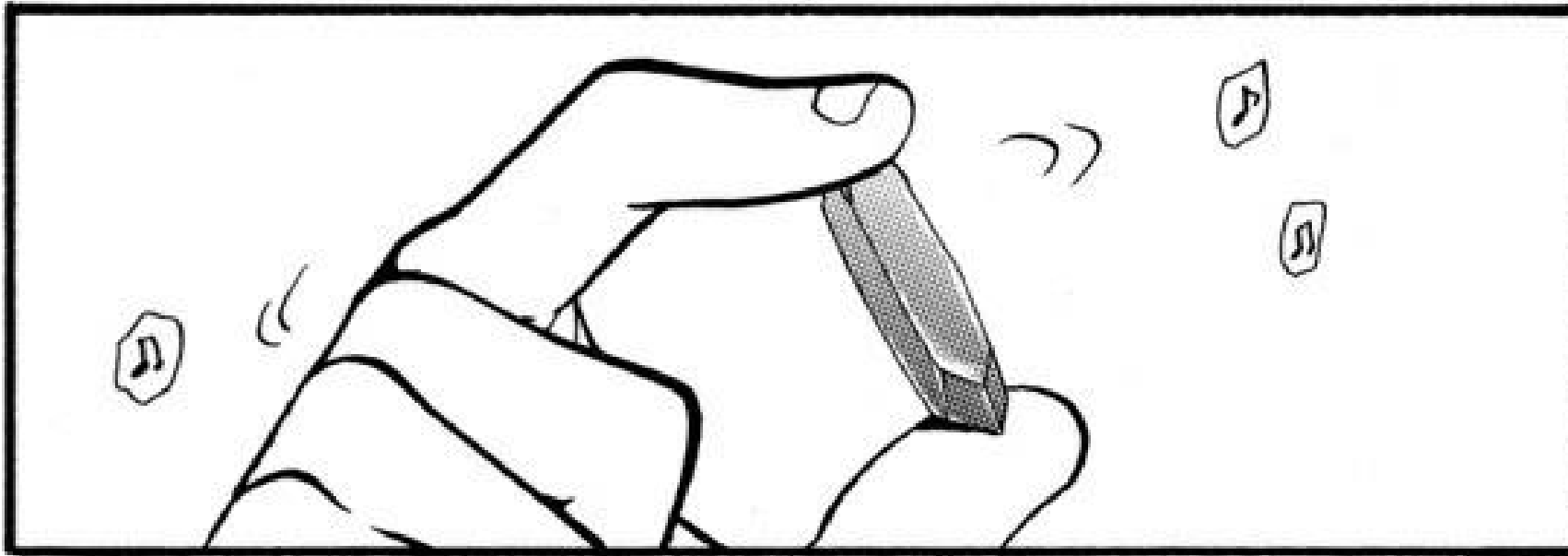


AND I KNOW WHY YOU BECAME A FORENSICS SPECIALIST !

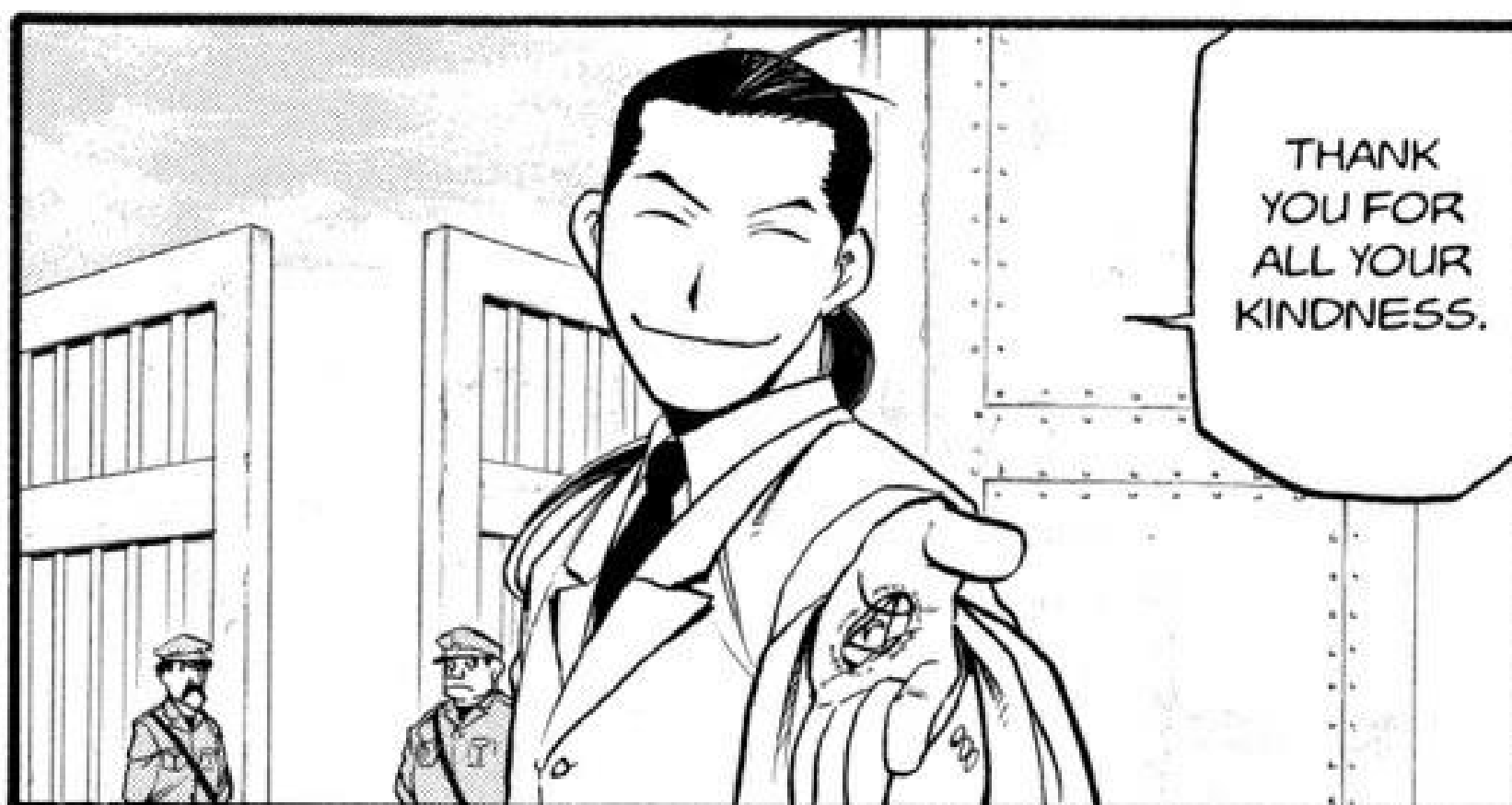


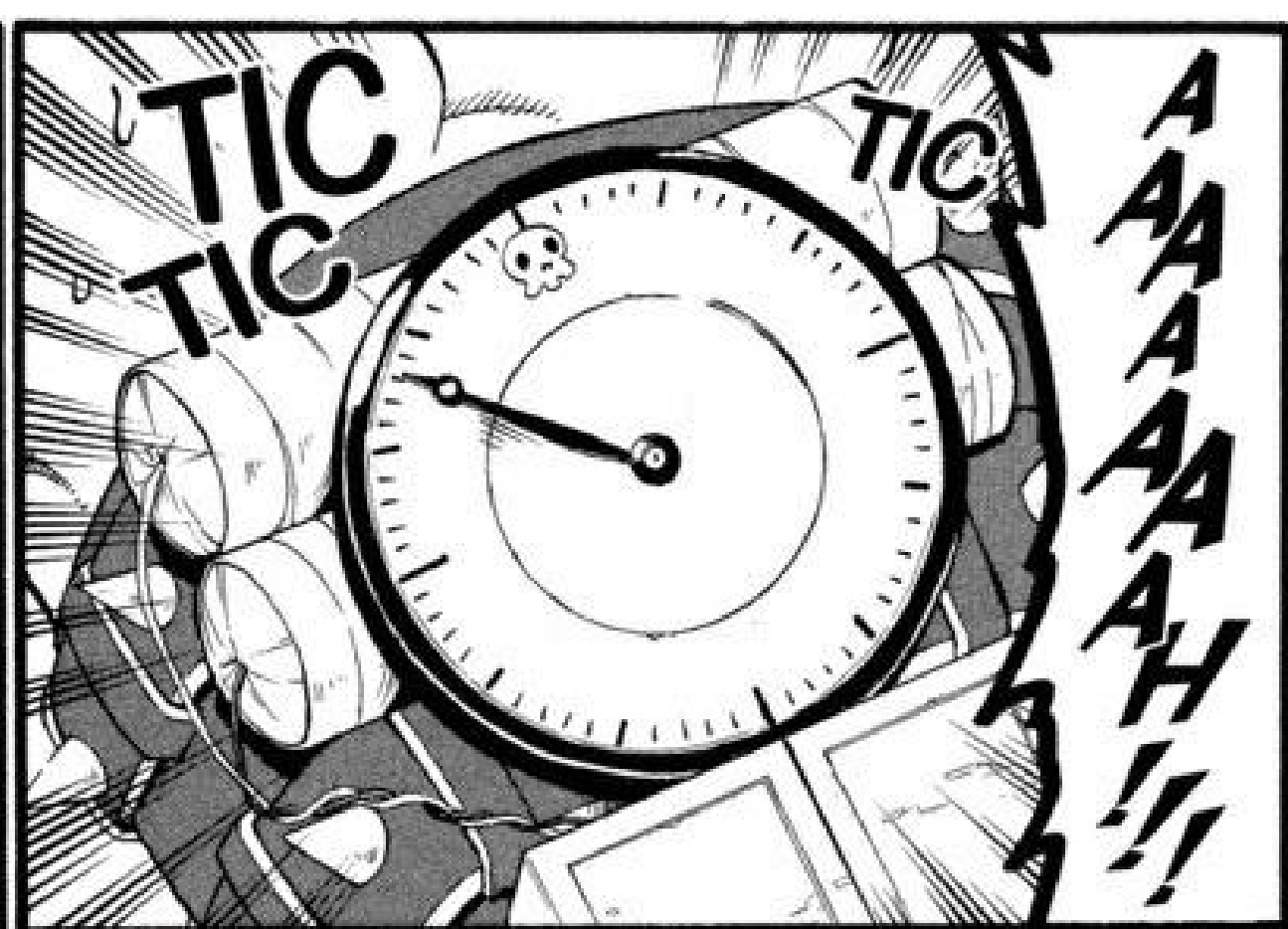
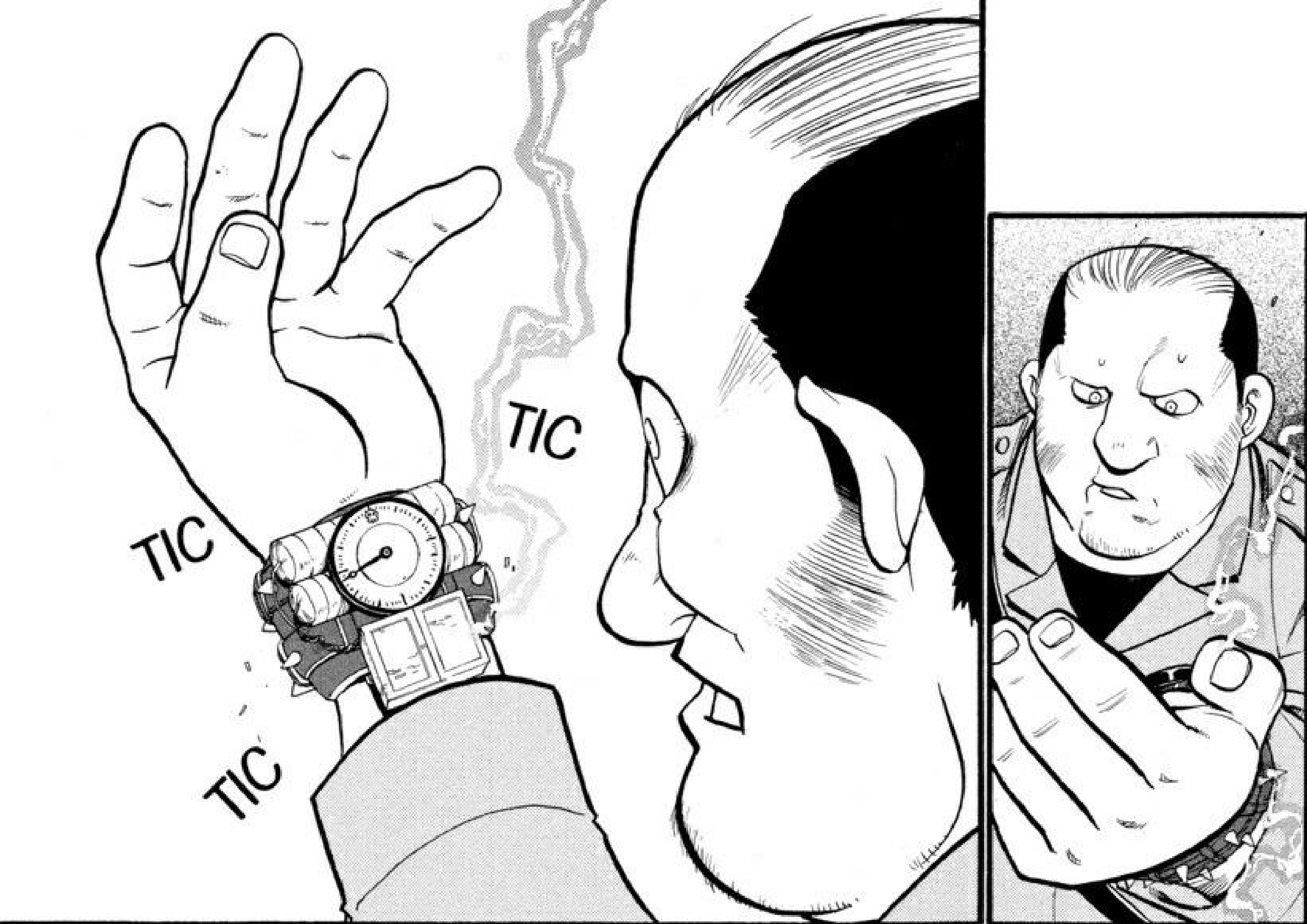


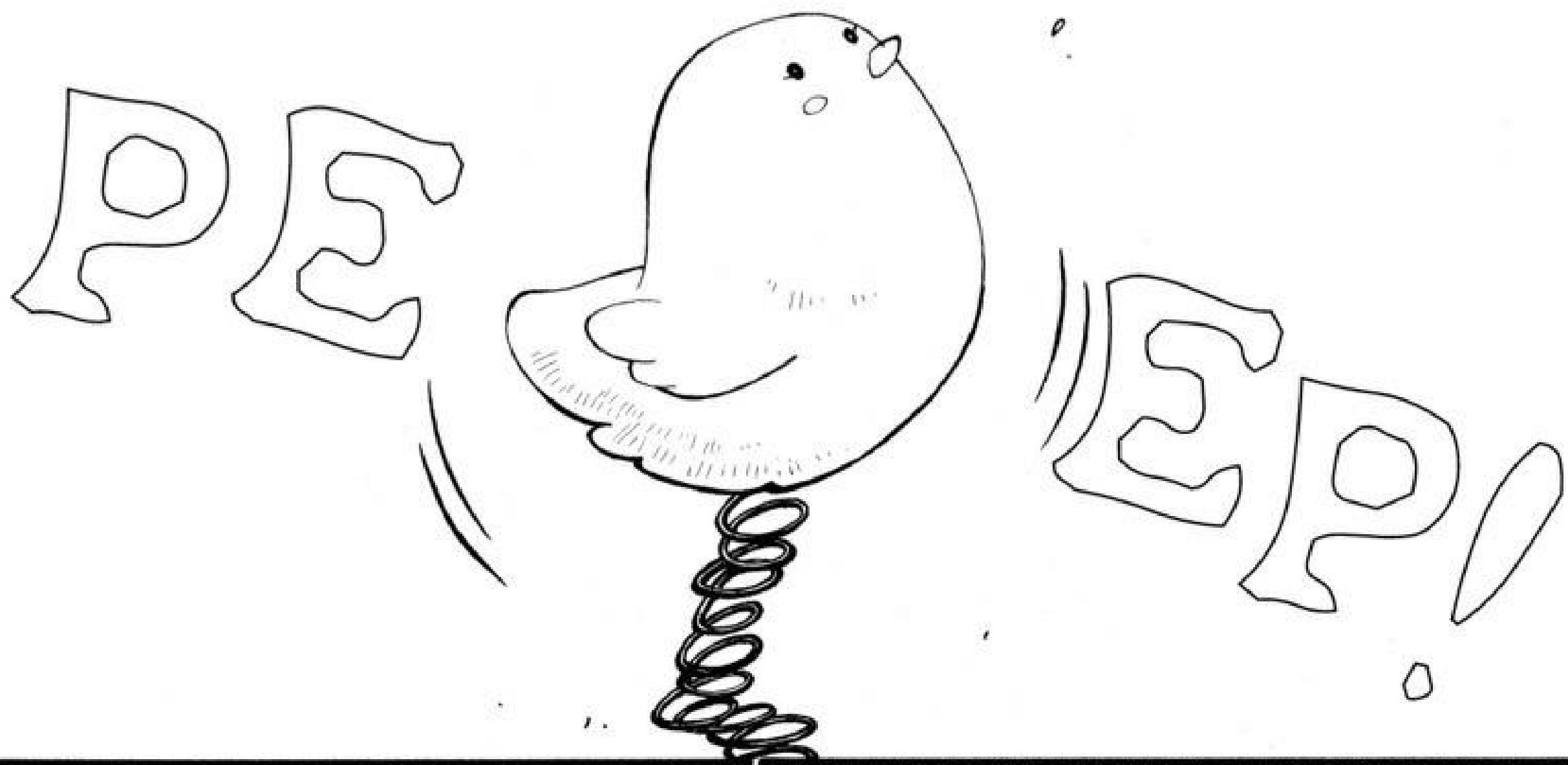






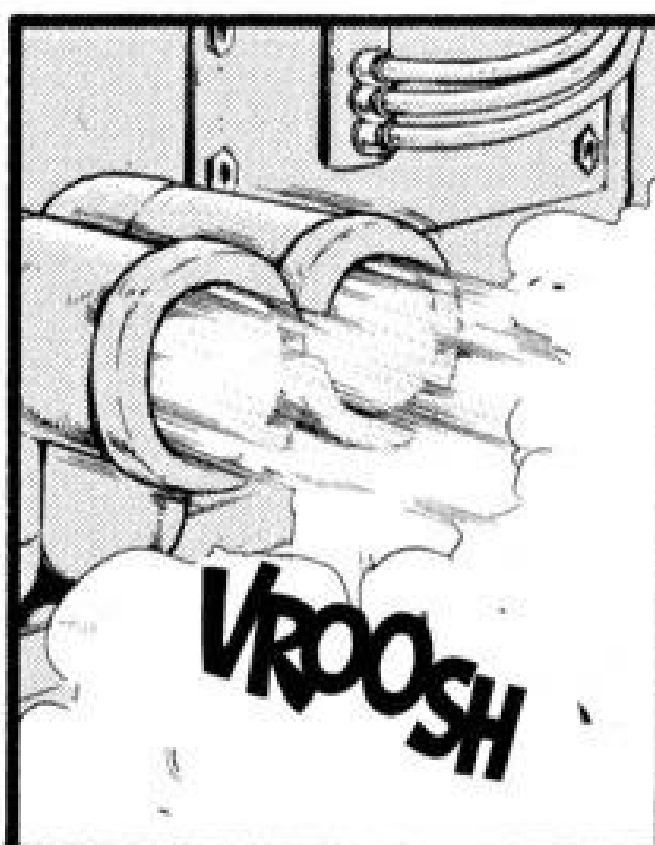


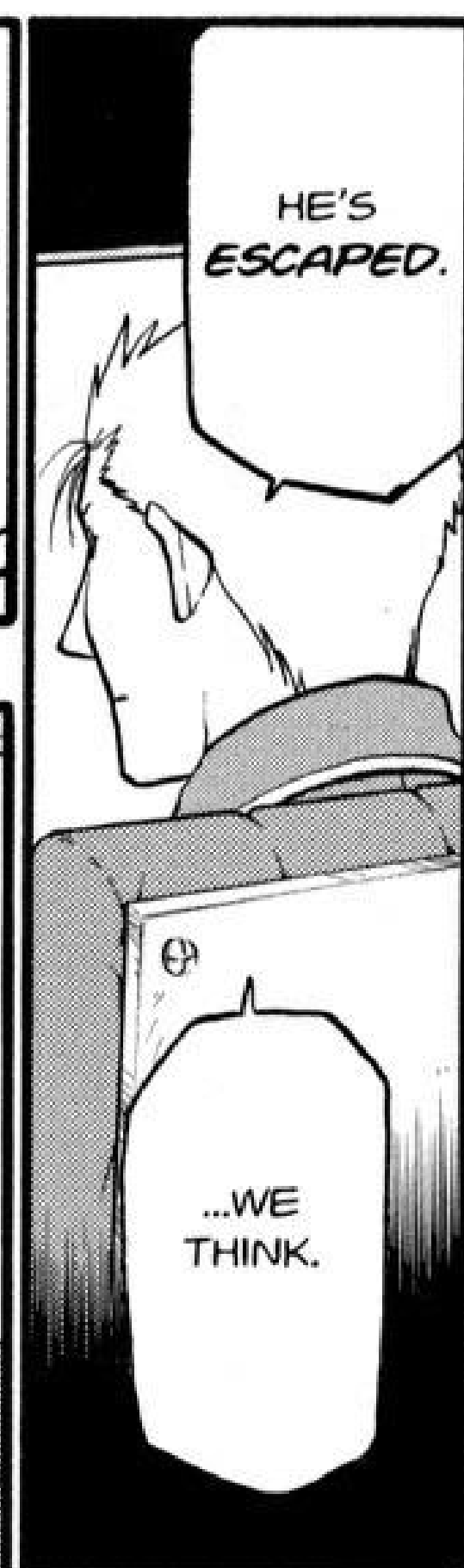


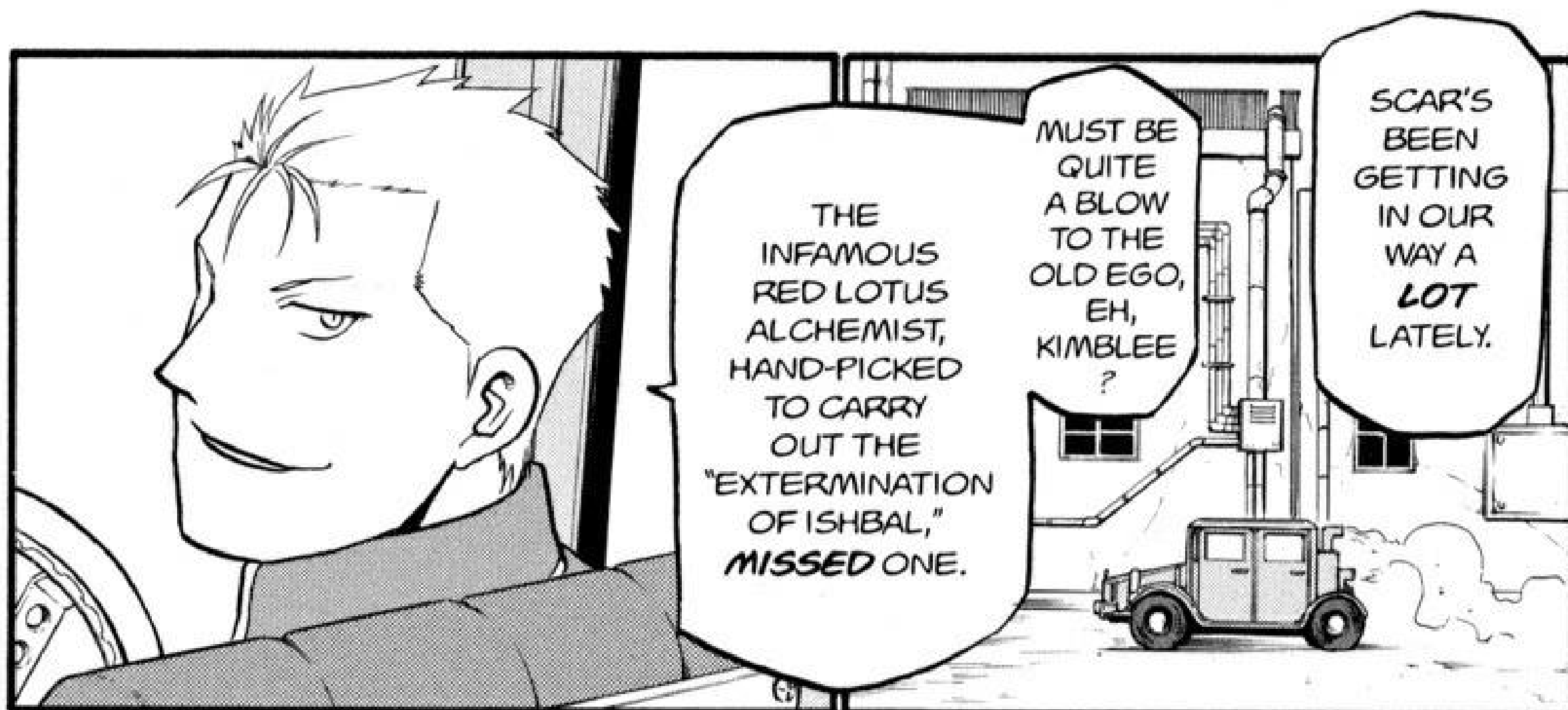


K
L
A
A
A
N
G









THE INFAMOUS RED LOTUS ALCHEMIST, HAND-PICKED TO CARRY OUT THE "EXTERMINATION OF ISHBAL," MISSED ONE.

MUST BE QUITE A BLOW TO THE OLD EGO, EH, KIMBLEE?

SCAR'S BEEN GETTING IN OUR WAY A LOT LATELY.



IT'S INEXCUSABLE THAT MY SYMPHONY OF DESTRUCTION IS INCOMPLETE.

YOU'RE RIGHT.



YOU DIDN'T LET ME OUT JUST TO PERFORM THIS LITTLE TASK, DID YOU?

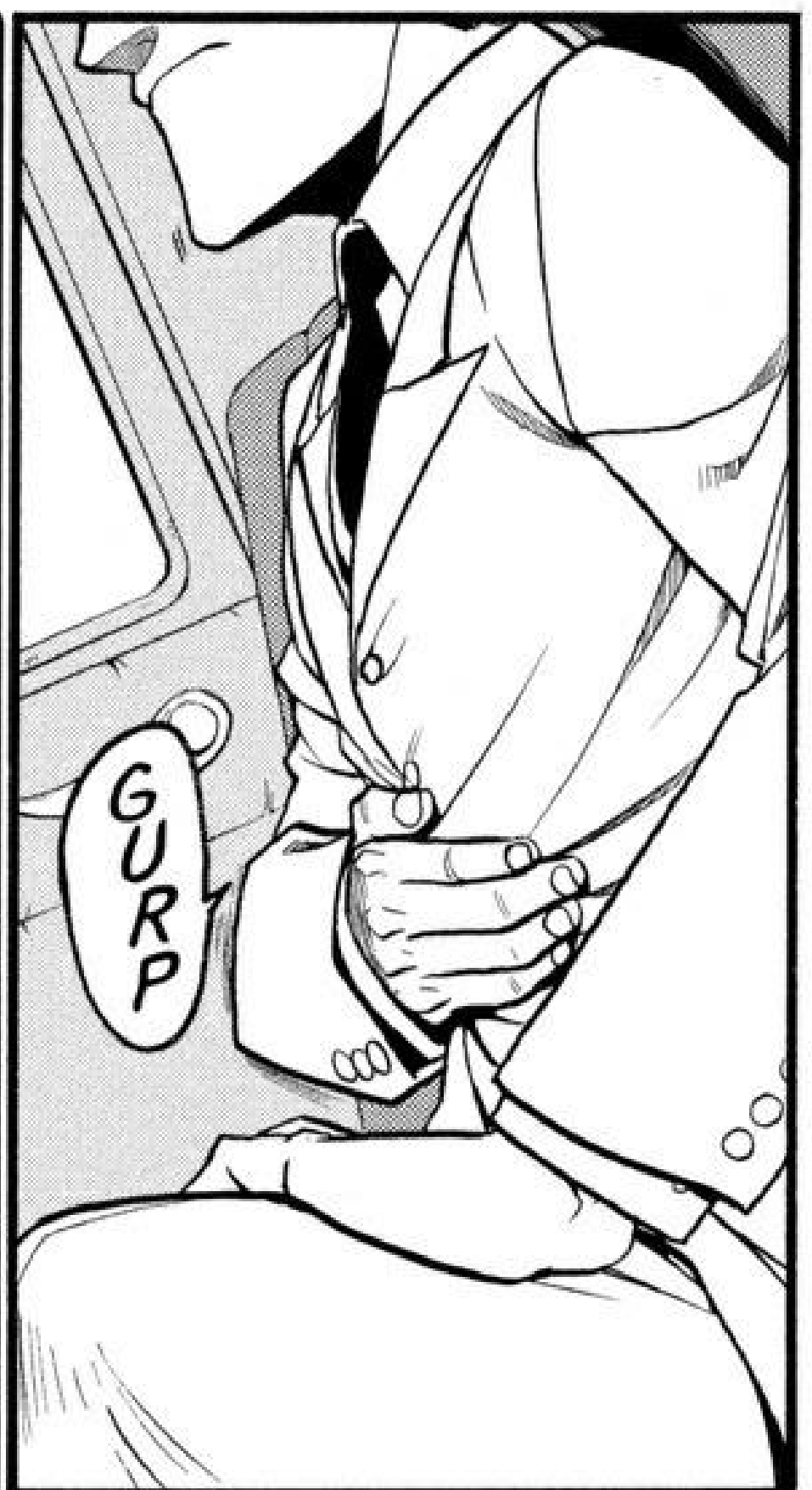
...

AS FOR MARCOH, IF HE DID, IN FACT, ESCAPE WITH SCAR—BRING HIM BACK ALIVE.

SO MY JOB IS TO ELIMINATE THIS SCAR?

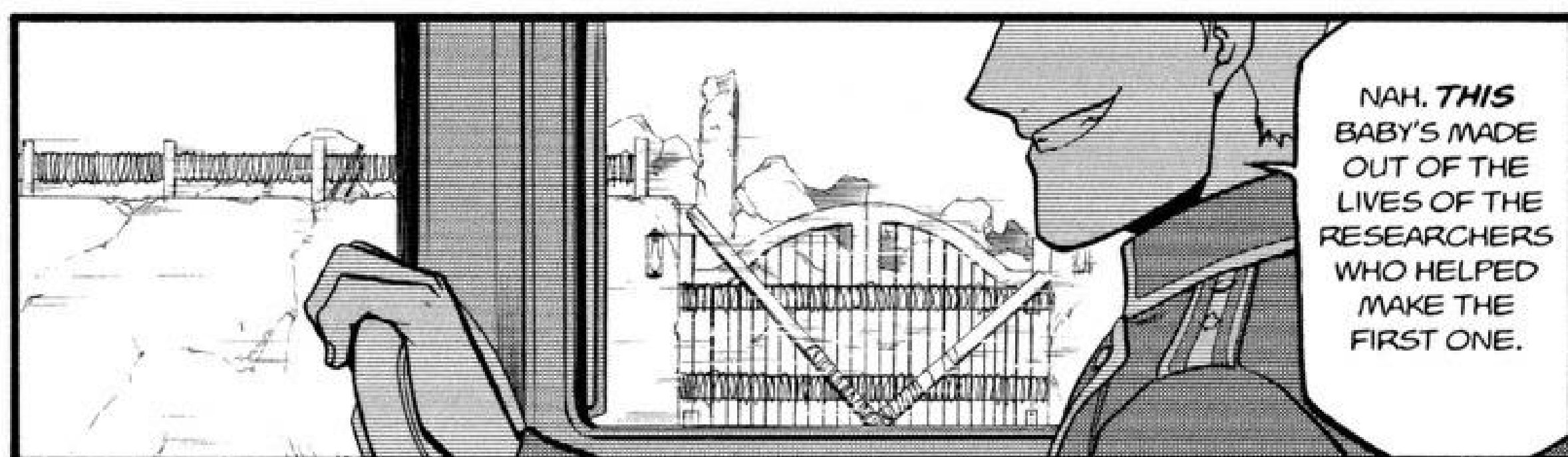
NOTES AND ALL THE MONEY YOU'LL NEED FOR EXPENSES ARE IN THERE.

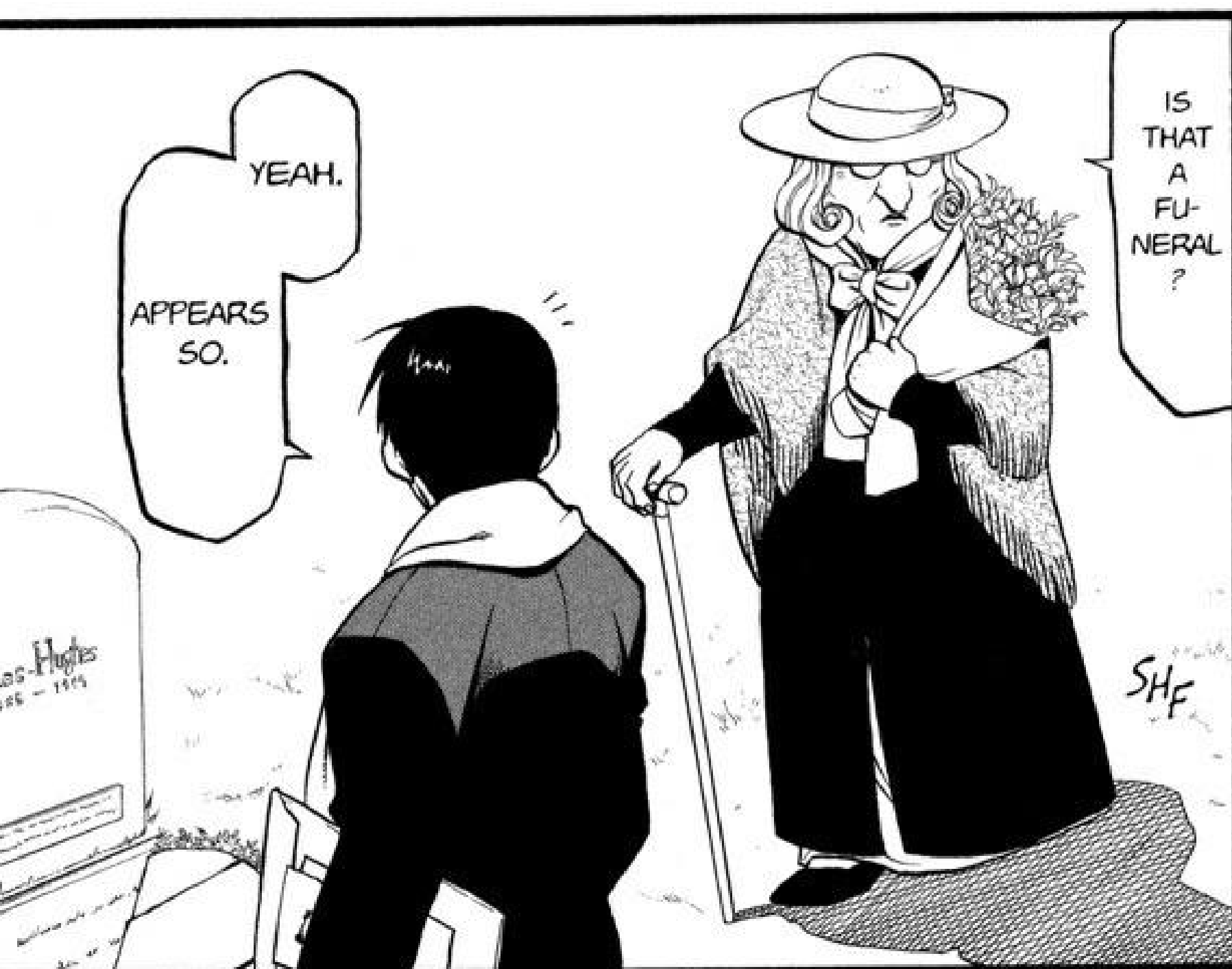
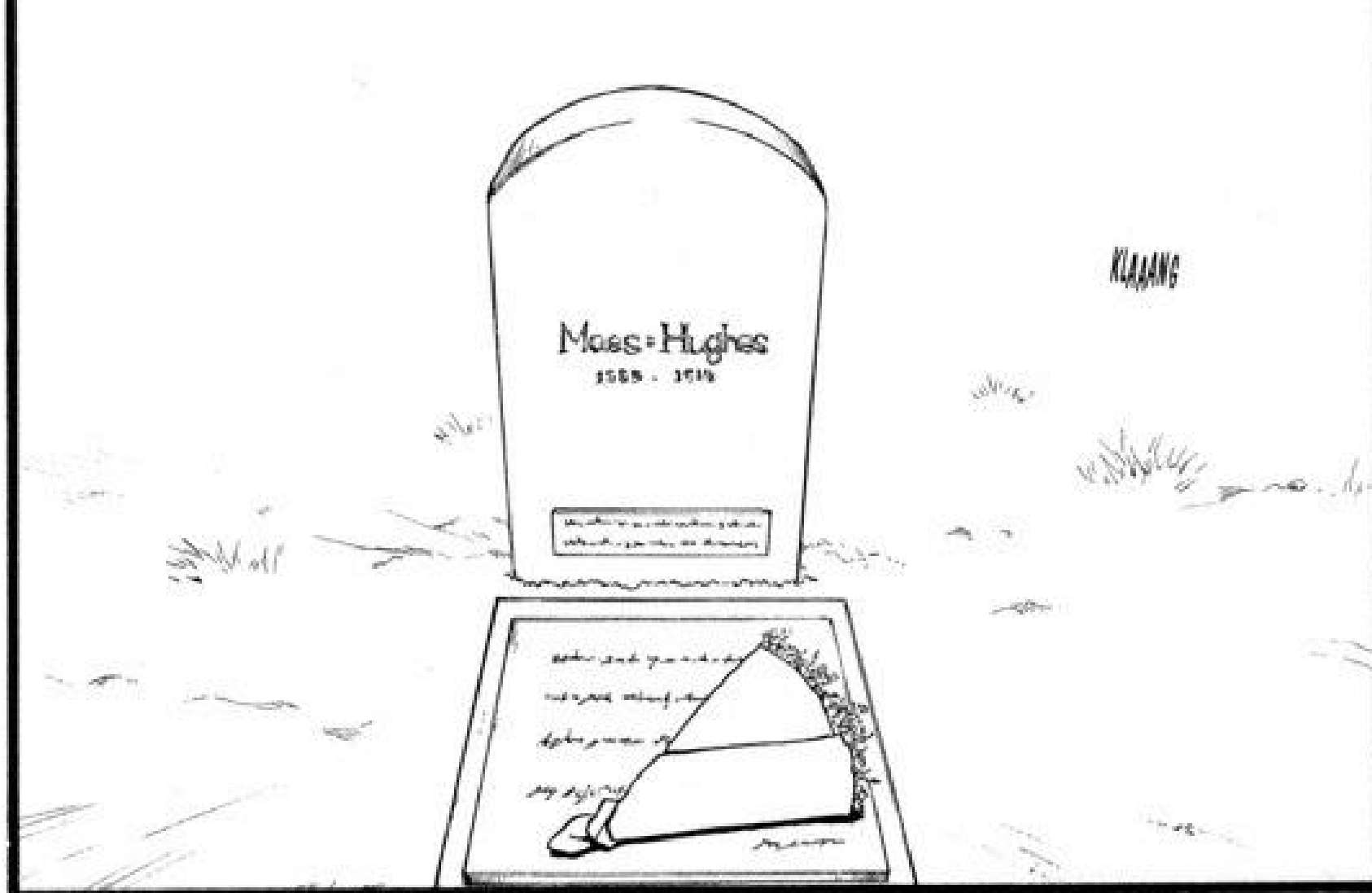
UH HUH.
KILL THE BASTARD ON SIGHT.

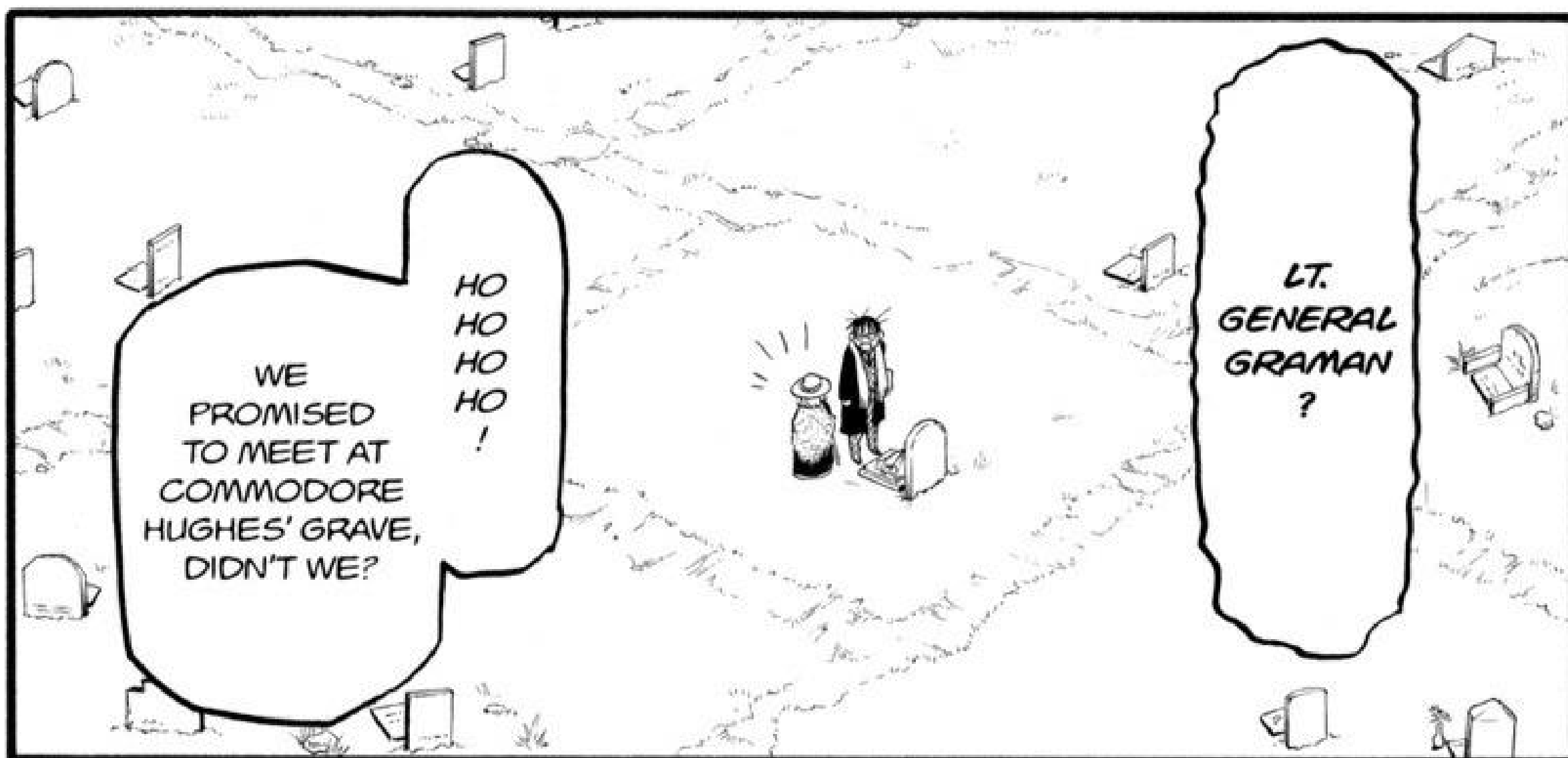


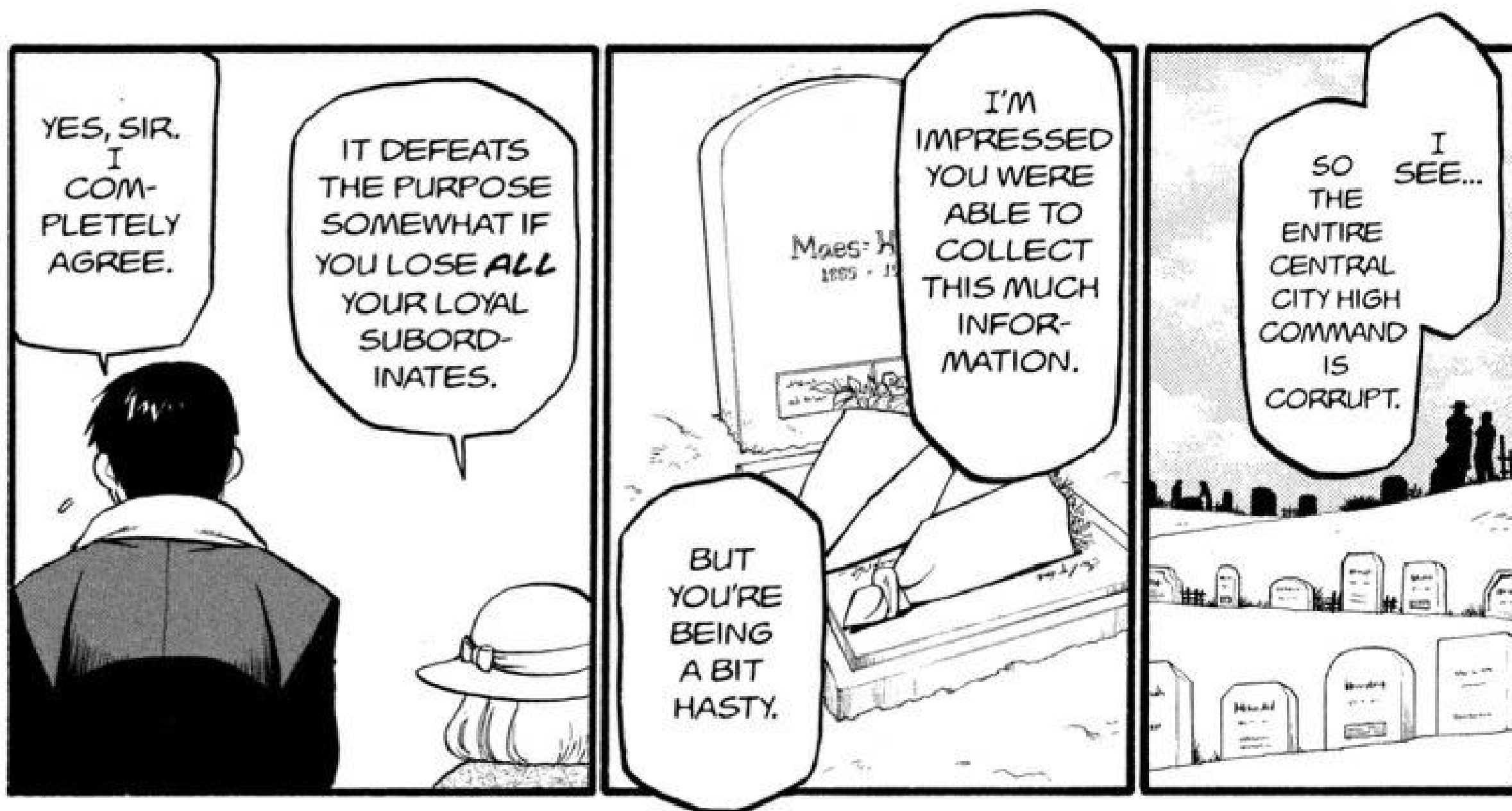


I CAN FINALLY USE THIS AGAIN.











"WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN AN INVINCIBLE ARMY OF IMMORTAL SOLDIERS?"



"HEY, GRAMAN," HE SAID.



I FLAT OUT REJECTED HIM. I TOLD HIM, "IMMORTALITY IS POINTLESS."

AND "IMMORTAL" ... ?
WHAT WAS YOUR REPLY, SIR?



DO YOU REMEMBER THE RIOTS IN REOLE, SIR?

SPEAKING OF CONFUSION...



AFTER THAT, I WAS NEVER CALLED BACK TO CENTRAL CITY. I'VE BEEN DEALING WITH ALL THE CHAOS AND CONFUSION IN THE EASTERN REGION EVER SINCE.

YOU WERE **DE-MOTED** !?



AND SHORTLY AFTER THAT...

... I WAS TRANSFERRED TO EASTERN HEAD-QUARTERS.



YES,
I REMEM-
BER.

THE INCIDENT
IN WHICH THE
FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST
EXPOSED THE
SCHEMES OF
THE FOUNDER
OF THE LETO
RELIGION.



AND IT
WAS AFTER
CENTRAL
TROOPS
ENTERED
REOLE THAT
UNREST
WITHIN
THE CITY
RAPIDLY
MULTIPLIED.

YES,
SIR.

BUT
THE QUES-
TION IS...

FULLMETAL
CONTACTED
EASTERN HQ
AS SOON AS HE
DISCOVERED
HIGH PRIEST
CORNELLO'S
PLOT.



THOSE
FELLOWS
IN CENTRAL
CITY
MUST BE
PLOTING
SOME-
THING...

...WHY, WHEN
THINGS WERE
GOING SO
WELL, DID
MILITARY
COMMAND
ORDER THE
**EASTERN
TROOPS** TO
STAND DOWN
AND SEND IN
**CENTRAL
TROOPS**
TO TAKE
OVER THE
OPERATION?

THAT'S
WHAT HAP-
PENED,
RIGHT
?

THE RIOT
WAS STILL
IN ITS INITIAL
STAGES, SO
THE EASTERN
TROOPS WERE
ABLE TO
MOBILIZE
QUICKLY AND
SUPPRESS
IT.



THAT'S
A
GOOD
ONE,
SIR.

DAGNABBIT!
WHY CAN'T
THEY STAY
QUIET UNTIL
AFTER MY
RETIRE-
MENT?

HA
HA
HA



AFTER ALL, SIR,
YOU'VE GOT A
LOT OF **LOYAL**
SOLDIERS UNDER
YOUR COMMAND—
MANY OF WHOM ARE
SEASONED, COMBAT-
READY VETERANS
OF THE ISHBALAN
CIVIL WAR.



LT. GENERAL
GRAMAN, A
RESPECTED OFFICER
LIKE YOURSELF COULD
NEVER BE SATISFIED
PEACEFULLY WHILING
AWAY YOUR DAYS IN THE
BOONDOCKS OF
EASTERN HQ. AM I
RIGHT, SIR?

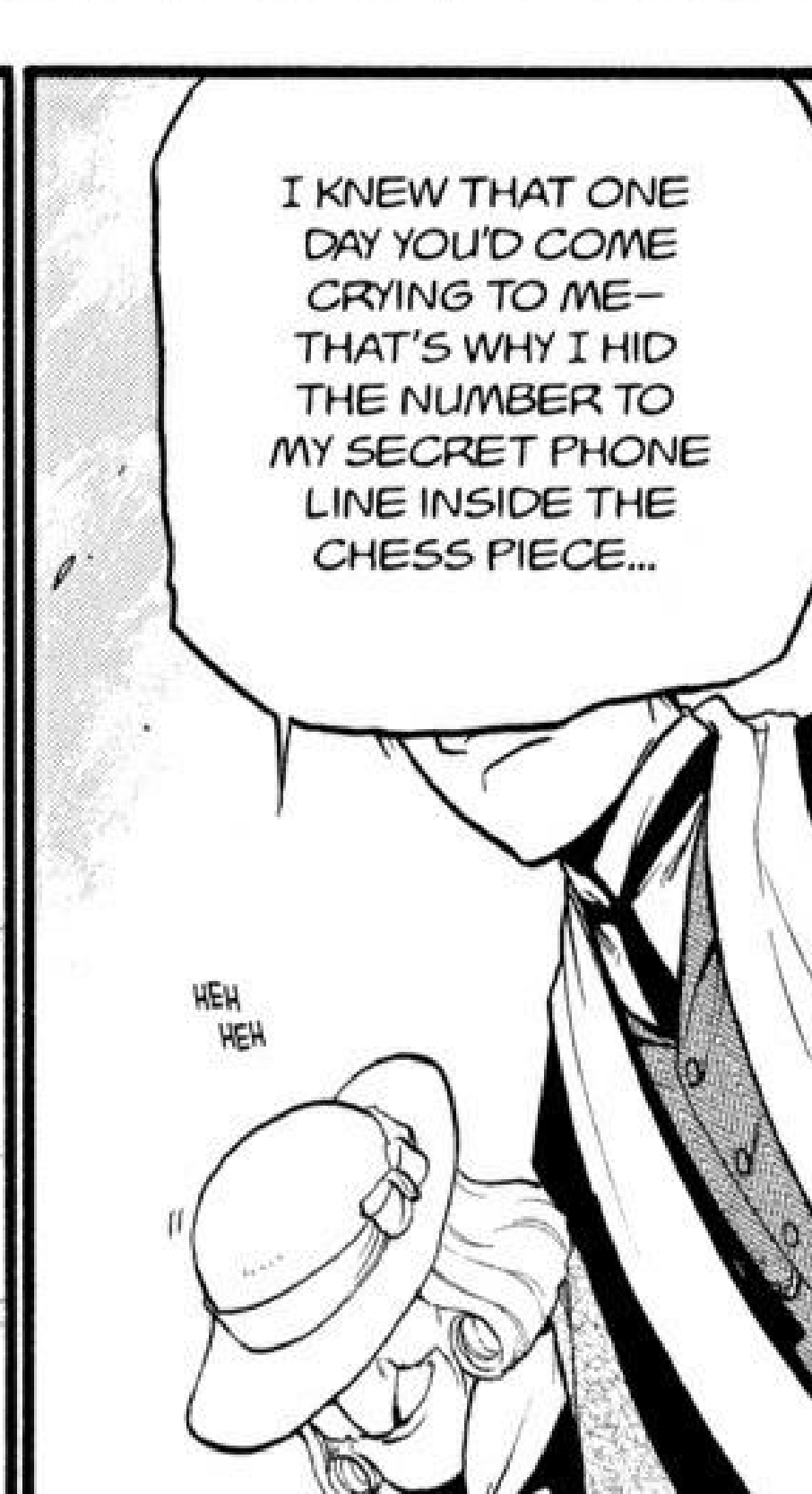


HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
!!

HA HA
HA HA
HA HA
HA HA!



...BUT I
NEVER
IMAGINED
THAT YOU'D
CALL ME
HERE TO
**INCITE
ME TO
ACTION**
!!

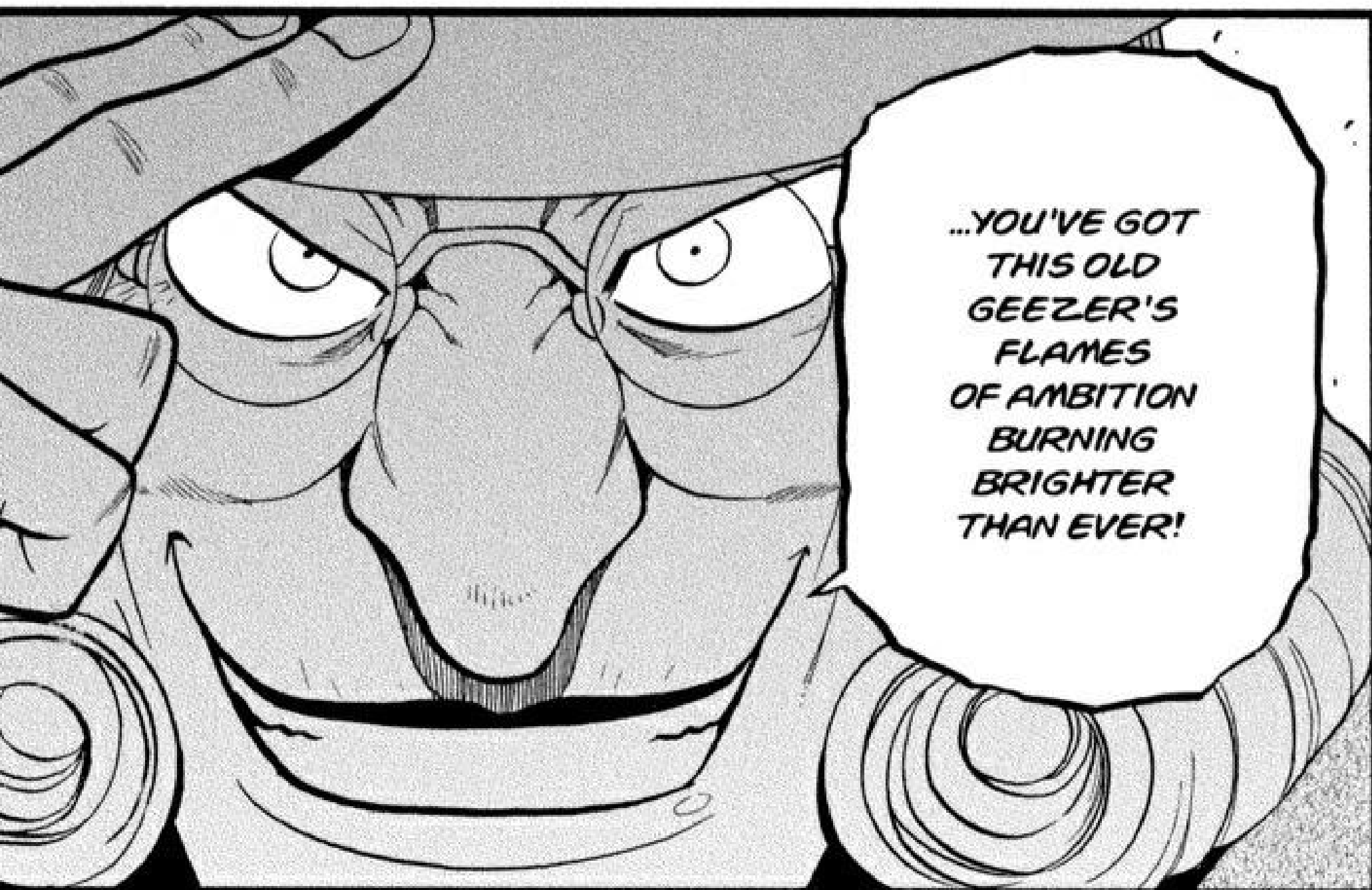


I KNEW THAT ONE
DAY YOU'D COME
CRYING TO ME—
THAT'S WHY I HID
THE NUMBER TO
MY SECRET PHONE
LINE INSIDE THE
CHESS PIECE...

HEH
HEH



...HEH...



...YOU'VE GOT
THIS OLD
GEEZER'S
FLAMES
OF AMBITION
BURNING
BRIGHTER
THAN EVER!



HEH
HEH
WELL,
WELL,
WELL...

JUST
WHEN I
THOUGHT
MY
YOUTHFUL
AMBITION
HAD DIED
OUT...



...MA-
DAM."

IF YOU
GET **TOO**
EXCITED,
YOU'LL
RUIN
YOUR
MAKEUP...



...HM
?

I'M
SORRY.
THANK
YOU
FOR
THE
OFFER,
BUT...



OH
NO
!

TEE
HEE.

HA
HA
HA.

ARE
YOU FREE
AFTER THIS?
MAYBE WE
CAN GO
OUT FOR
TEA?

